

Reservoir Storage Outlook

May 21, 2015



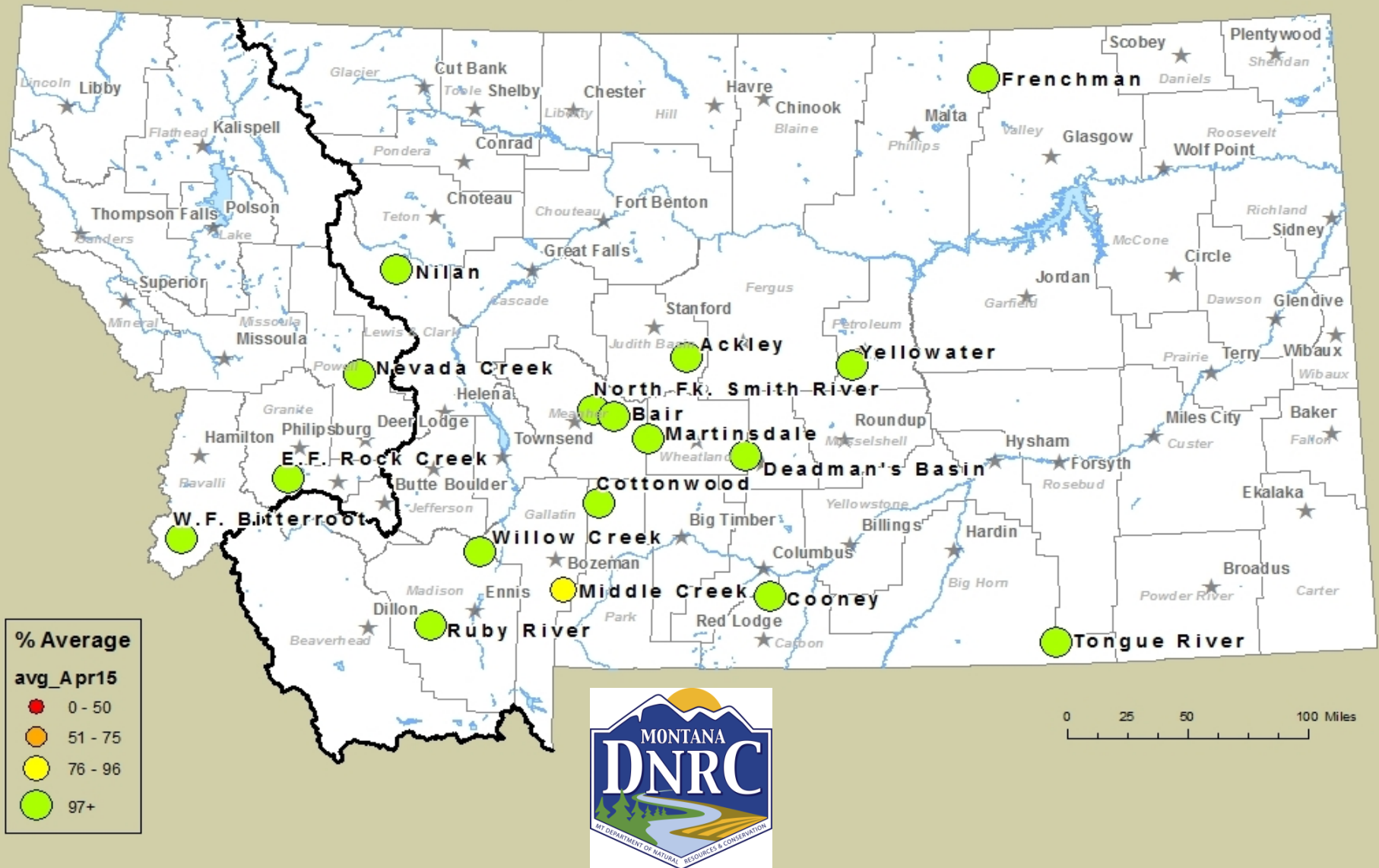
DNRC Water Resources Division
State Water Projects Bureau

Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs



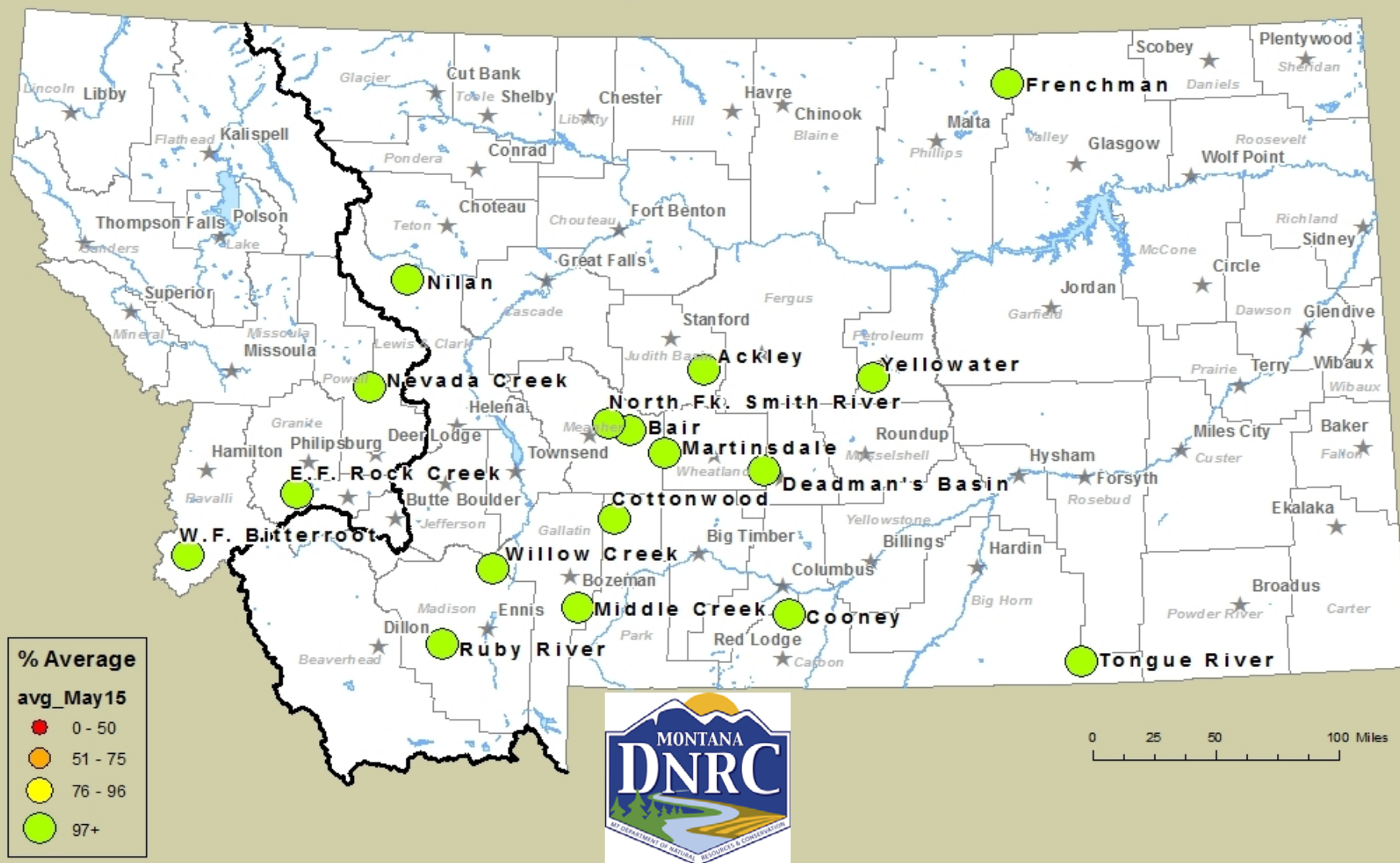
Reservoir Contents Report

April 16, 2015



Reservoir Contents Report

May 21, 2015



MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION

WATER RESOURCES DIVISION - STATE WATER PROJECTS BUREAU

April 30, 2015

All Contents in Acre-Feet

RESERVOIR	TOTAL CAPACITY (includes dead storage)*	CONTENTS				% CAPACITY 4/30/2015	%AVERAGE 4/30/2015	READING DATE	COMMENTS
		AVERAGE	Last Year	Last Month	PRESENT				
		1960 - 2014	4/30/2014	38/31/2015	4/30/2015				
	Full Pool								
	Contents								
ACKLEY	6,722	3,678	4,112	3,997	4,873	72	132	5/1/2015	elev.= 4310.3
BAIR	7,300	5,289	5,114	5,609	6,370	87	120	4/30/2015	elev.=5321.49
COONEY	28,230	22,403	20,950	22,280	23,580	84	105	4/22/2015	elev.=4245.48 (23,580 AF)
COTTONWOOD	1,900	1,518	1,981	1,940	1,900	100	125	4/23/2015	elev.= 5102.48
DEADMAN'S BASIN	75,968	53,666	69,290	70,577	75,744	100	141	5/4/2015	elev.=3920.9 (71,994 AF)
E.F. ROCK CREEK	16,040	9,666	10,224	11,045	11,868	74	123	5/4/2015	elev.=6044.2
FRENCHMAN	2,777	2,431	2,777	2,777	2,777	100	114	4/30/2015	spilling
MARTINSDALE	23,348	12,124	15,138	19,337	22,924	98	189	5/4/2015	elev.=4778.8
MIDDLE CREEK	10,184	6,523	4,430	5,818	7,501	74	115	5/4/2015	elev.=6709.0
NEVADA CREEK	11,207	10,018	10,402	10,861	11,244	100	112	5/3/2015	elev.=4616.1
NILAN	10,992	7,138	7,920	10,020	10,571	96	148	4/21/2015	elev.=4441.77
N.FK. SMITH RIVER	11,406	8,783	10,732	10,330	10,399	91	118	4/30/2015	elev.= 5485.03
RUBY RIVER	37,612	36,156	37,612	37,137	37,844	101	105	5/5/2015	elev.=5393.2
TONGUE RIVER	79,071	51,121	45,515	56,093	66,537	84	130	5/4/2015	elev.=3424.9
W.F. BITTERROOT	32,362	20,328	29,937	20,019	32,362	100	159	4/27/2015	spilling
WILLOW CREEK	18,000	17,271	14,033	16,127	16,843	94	98	5/1/2015	elev.=4734.5
YELLOWATER	3,842	1,356	3,431	3,236	3,187	83	235	5/1/2015	elev.=3116.75

* Note: Reservoir contents include dead storage at the following:

Ackley	1001 AF	**	** O&M slope storage table does not include dead storage (so dead storage has to be added into the storage from the table)	
Cooney	90 AF	**	Tongue River	711 AF (O&M storage table includes dead storage)
Deadman's	3750 AF	**	W. F. Bitterroot	656 AF (O&M storage table includes dead storage)
Nilan	900 AF	**	Willow Creek	269 AF (O&M storage table includes dead storage)

* Note: Cooney capacity reflects capacity after 1982 dam rehabilitation; prior capacity was 24,195 A.F.. Average storage shown is for post rehabilitation data.

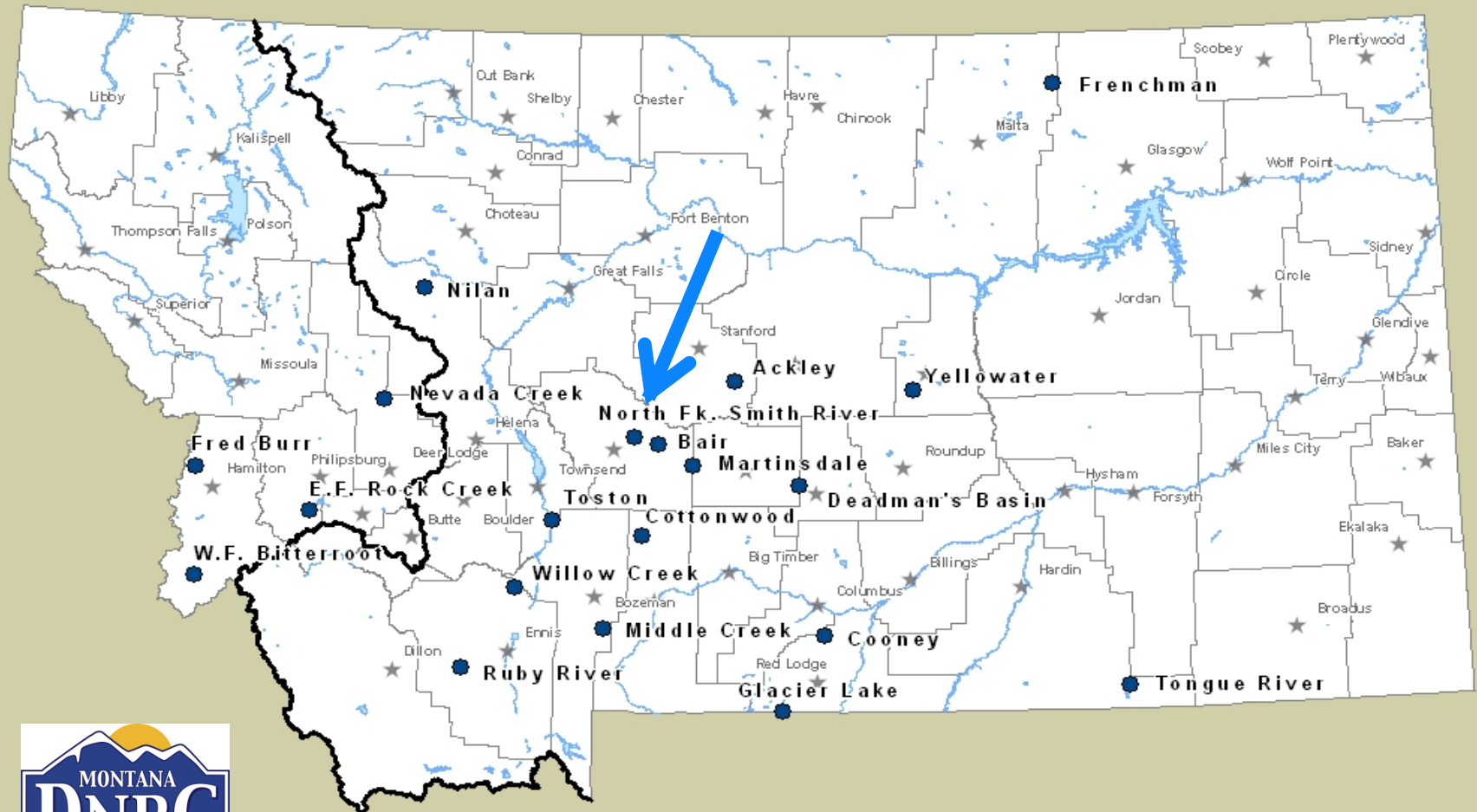
* Note: Middle Creek capacity reflects capacity after 1993 dam rehabilitation; prior capacity was 8,027 A.F.. Average storage shown is for post rehabilitation data.

* Note: Nevada Creek Reservoir Capacity reflects live storage capacity survey conducted in year 2000. Prior live storage capacity documented as 12,723 AF.

* Note: Tongue River capacity reflects capacity after 1999 dam rehabilitation; prior capacity was 68,040 A.F.. Average storage is post rehabilitation data.

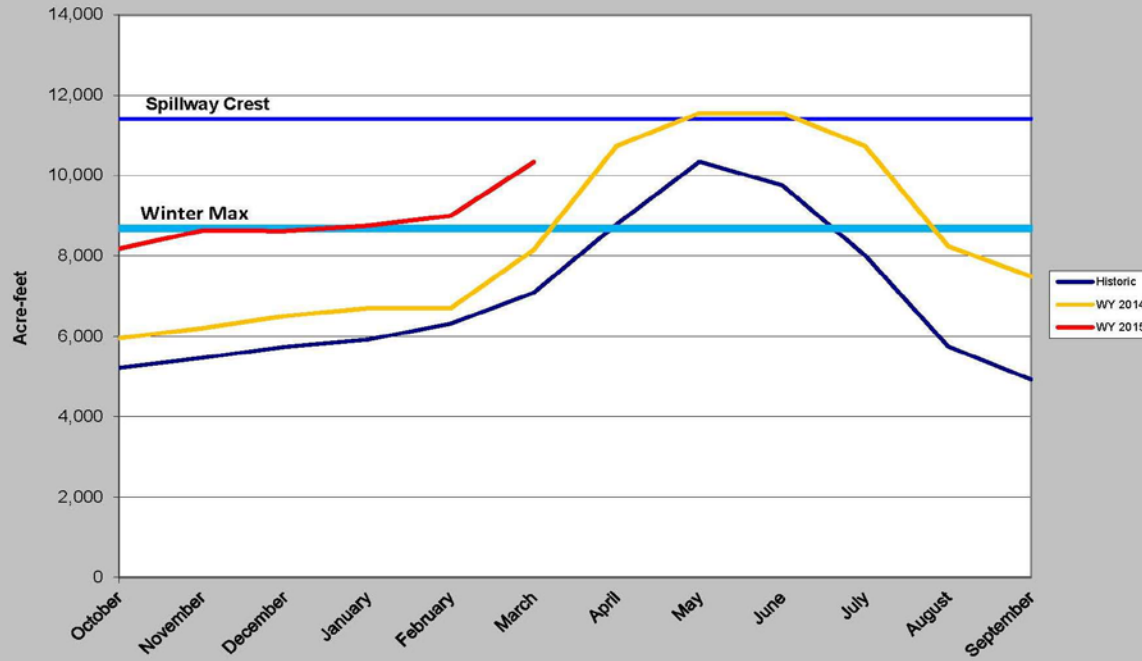
* Note: Frenchman Reservoir capacity tables updated based on aerial survey; prior capacity was 3752 A.F. Average shown is pre aerial survey

Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs



North Fork Smith River

(Historic, WY 2014, and WY 2015)



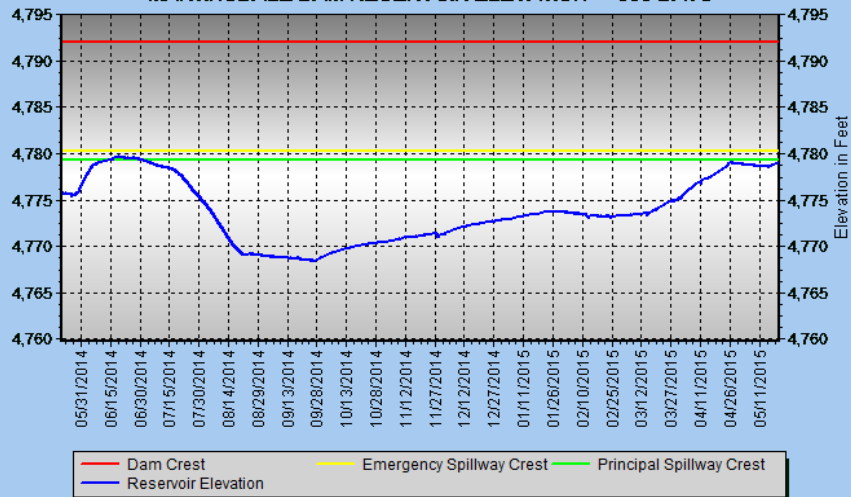
- 91% Capacity
- 118% average
- 10,399 Acre-Feet



Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs



MARTINDALE DAM RESERVOIR ELEVATION — 365 DAYS



TIME OF LAST READING 5/21/2015 4:00:00 AM

REFERENCE INFORMATION

FT (MSL)

AC-FT

RESERVOIR ELEVATION 4,779.0 FT

DAM CREST 4792.0 38,958

RESERVOIR VOLUME 23,077 AF

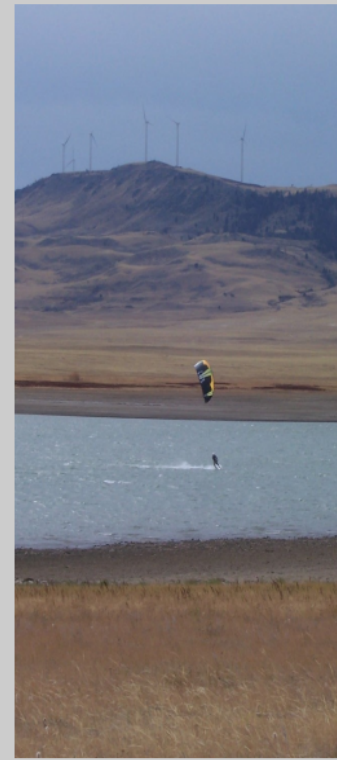
EMERGENCY SPILLWAY CREST 4780.25 24,350

*NOTE: RESERVOIR ELEVATIONS BELOW 4759.78 FT ARE NOT VALID DUE TO INSTRUMENTATION LIMITATIONS.

PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY CREST 4779.25 23,348

TRANSDUCER CASE DEPTH 4759.78 8,444

*** PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVISION ***



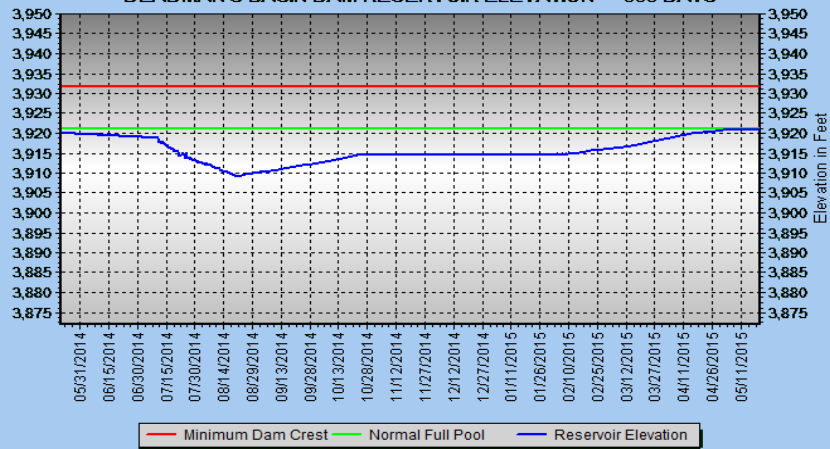
- 99% Capacity
- 190% average
- 23,077 Acre-Feet
- Inflows=0 cfs
- Outflows=0 cfs



Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs



DEADMAN'S BASIN DAM RESERVOIR ELEVATION — 365 DAYS



TIME OF LAST READING 5/21/2015 12:00:00 AM

RESERVOIR ELEVATION 3,920.9 FT

RESERVOIR VOLUME 72,046 AF

OPERATING GATE 10.4%

ISOLATION GATE 99.7%

GATEHOUSE TEMPERATURE 66.6 deg. F

REFERENCE INFORMATION FT (MSL) AC-FT

MINIMUM DAM CREST 3931.7 100,000

NORMAL FULL POOL 3921.0 72,218

LOWEST USEABLE ELEVATION (DEAD STORAGE) 3872.0 0 (3,750)

*Data for Deadman's Basin Dam is preliminary. Presented data may not accurately represent the actual conditions.



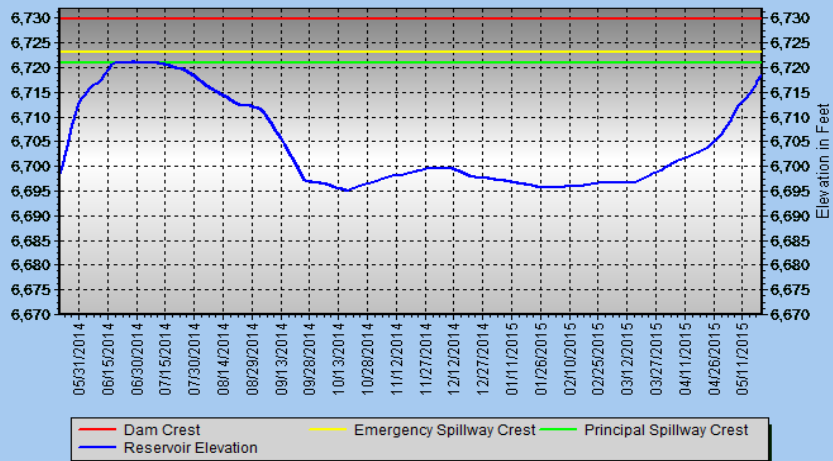
- 99% Capacity
- 141% average
- 75,538 Acre-Feet (Total Storage)
- Elev.=3920.9



Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs



MIDDLE CREEK DAM RESERVOIR ELEVATION — 365 DAYS



TIME OF LAST READING 5/21/2015 5:00:00 AM

RESERVOIR ELEVATION 6,718.6 FT

RESERVOIR VOLUME 9,583 AF

MIDDLE CREEK BELOW DAM 14.3 CFS

TIME OF LAST READING 5/21/2015 5:45:00 AM

REFERENCE INFORMATION

FT (MSL)

AC-FT

DAM CREST

6730.0

12,790

EMERGENCY SPILLWAY CREST

6723.0

10,707

PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY CREST

6721.0

10,184

LOWEST USABLE ELEVATION

6637.0

0

*** PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVISION ***

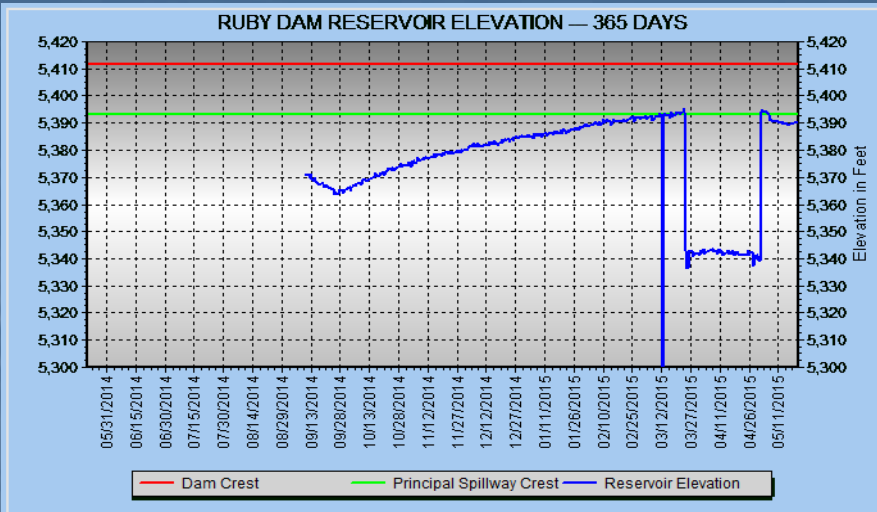


- 93% Capacity
- 146% Average
- Outflows~14 cfs
- 9,583 Acre-Feet
- Elev.=6718.6



Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs





TIME OF LAST READING	5/21/2015 12:00:00 AM	SPILLWAY SLIDE GATE	0.6%
RESERVOIR ELEVATION	5,389.9 FT	VALVE GATE OUTFLOW (ESTIMATED)	288.3 CFS
RESERVOIR VOLUME	34,634 AF	REFERENCE INFORMATION	FT (MSL) AC-FT
60 INCH VALVE GATE	32.1%	DAM CREST	5411.5 59,484
18 INCH VALVE GATE	-5.0%	PRINCIPAL SPILLWAY CREST	5393.0 37,642

*Data for Ruby Dam is preliminary. Presented data may not accurately represent the actual conditions.



- 93% Capacity
- 97% average
- 34,634 Acre-Feet
- Elev.=5389.9
- Inflows=226 cfs
- Outflows=270 cfs

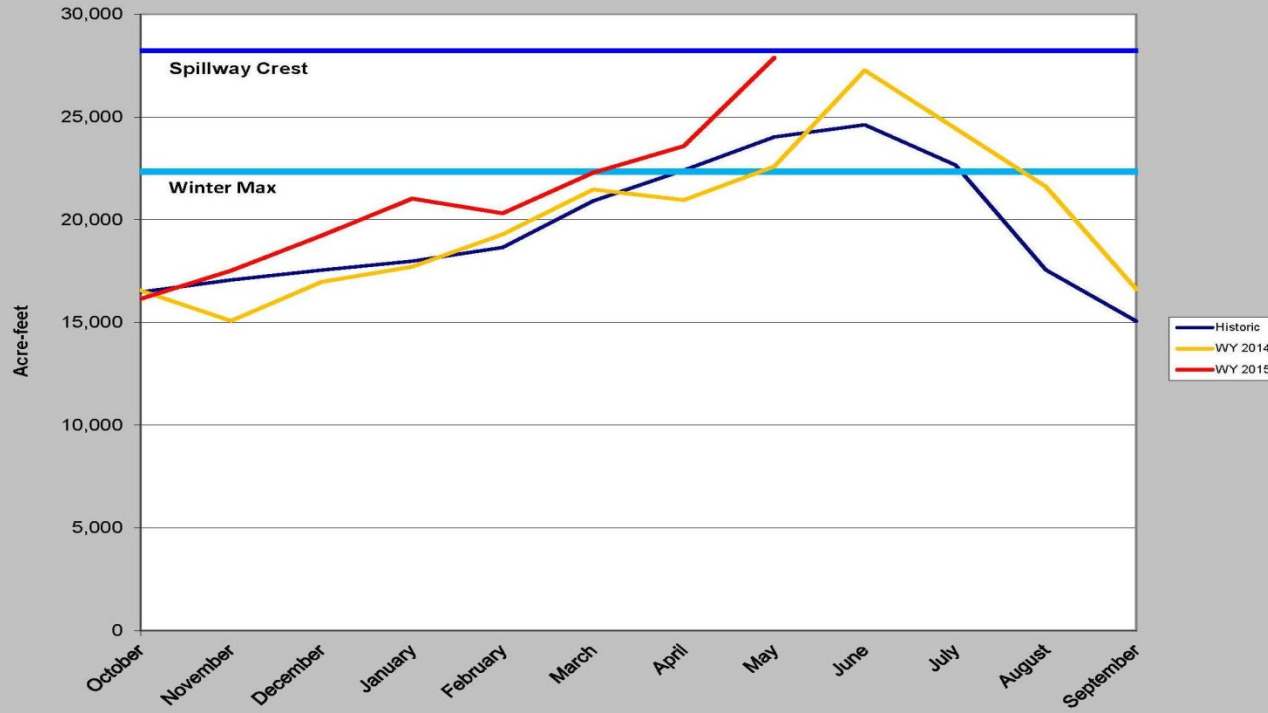


Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs



Cooney Reservoir

(Historic, WY 2014, and WY 2015)

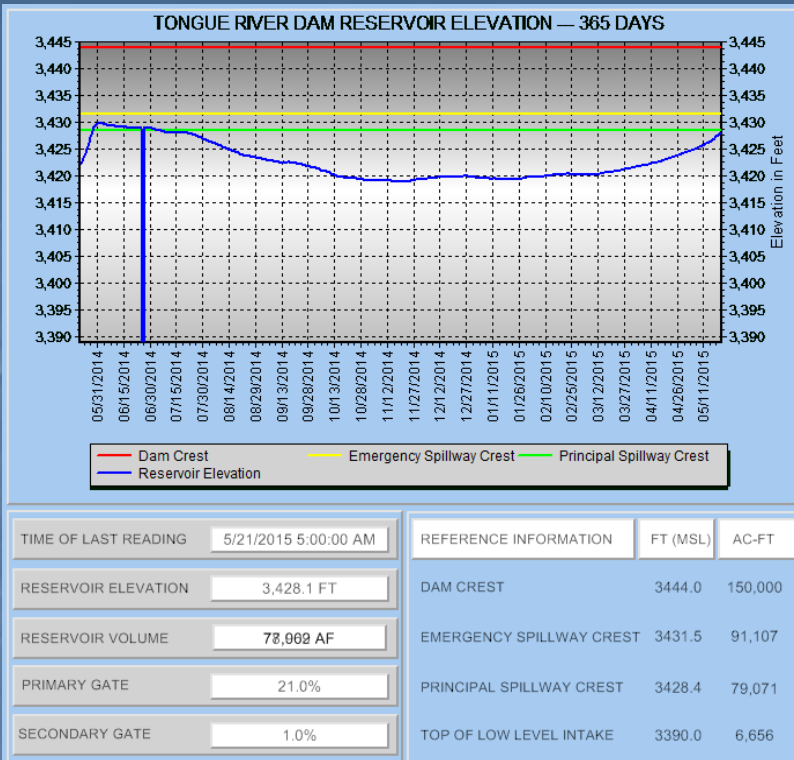


- 99% Capacity
- 124% average
- 27,878 Acre-Feet
- Elev.=4250.64
- Inflows= 361 cfs
- Outflows=66 cfs

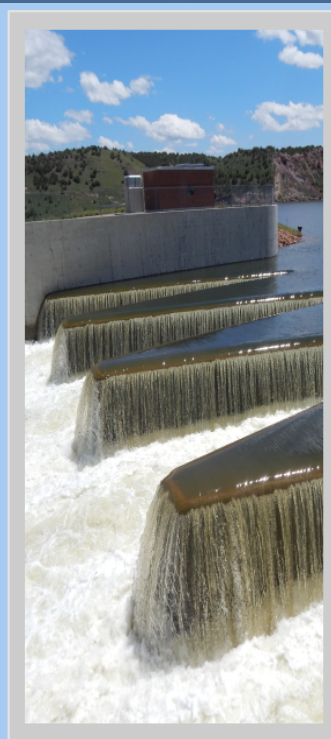


Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs





*** PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVISION ***

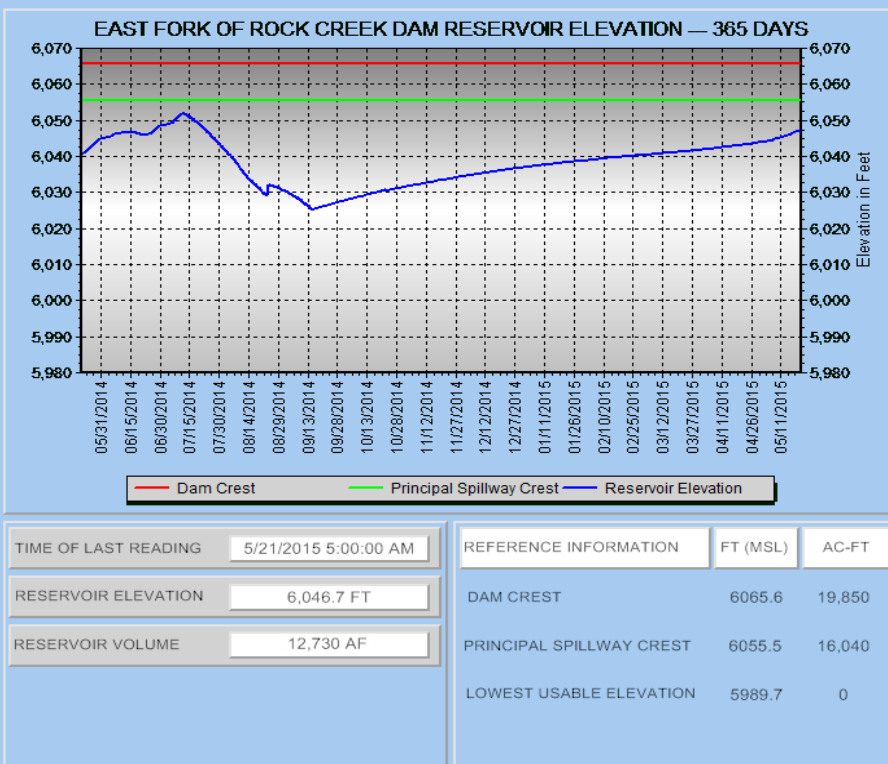


- 97% Capacity
- 150% Average
- 78,962 Acre-Feet
- Elev.=3428.1
- Inflows=833 cfs
- Outflows=345 cfs

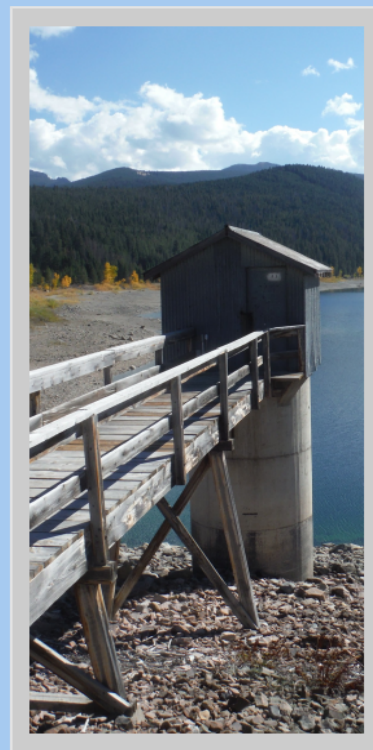


Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs





*** PROVISIONAL DATA SUBJECT TO REVISION ***



- 80% Capacity
- 132% average
- 12,730 Acre-Feet
- Elev.=6046.7

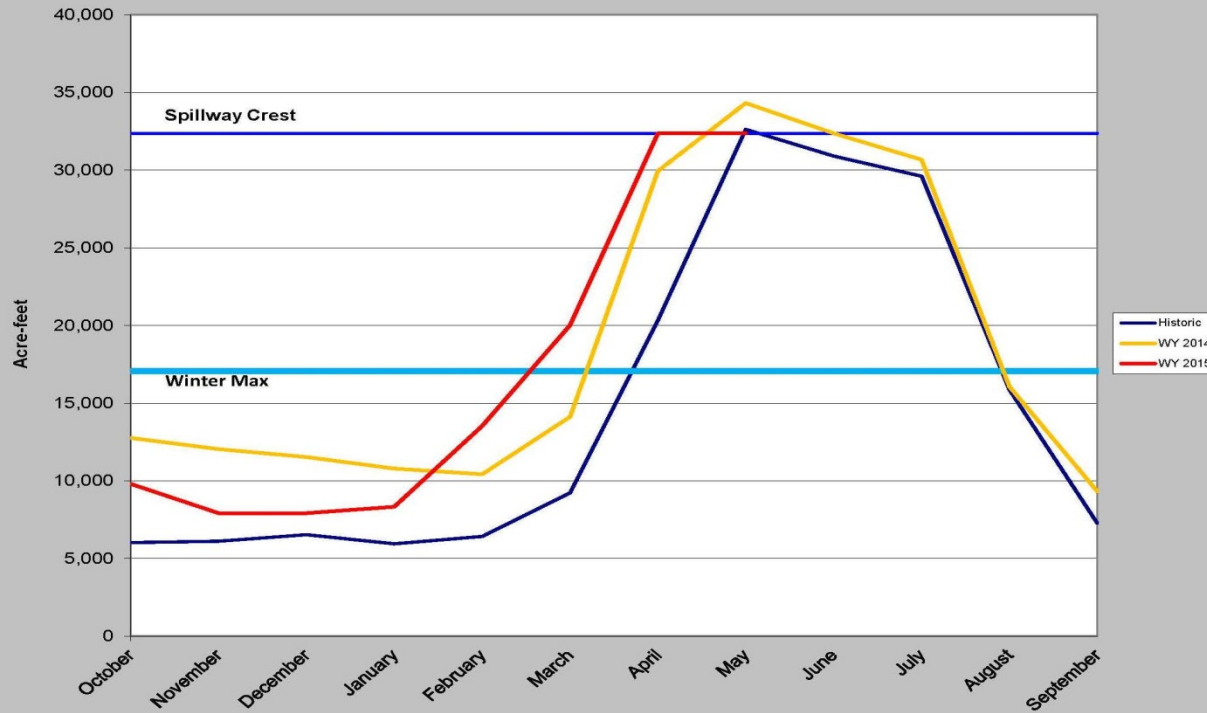


Montana DNRC State Water Projects Bureau Reservoirs



Painted Rocks Reservoir

(Historic, WY 2014, and WY 2015)



- 100% Capacity
- 100 % average
- 32,362 Acre-Feet
- Elev.=4725.5
- Inflows~ 1,050 cfs
- Outflows= 1,050 cfs



Summary

- Maximum Winter Carryover was maintained across majority of State Water Projects
- Majority of Reservoirs are steadily filling or near/at capacity
- State Water Projects Reservoirs are above to well above average for May and ahead of last year
- Dry spring conditions in conjunction with below average snowpack could potentially result in above average drawdown rates throughout the irrigation season
- Water Users are anticipating shortages due to snowpack conditions at select reservoirs

**Governor's Drought & Water Supply Advisory
Committee
May NRCC Update**

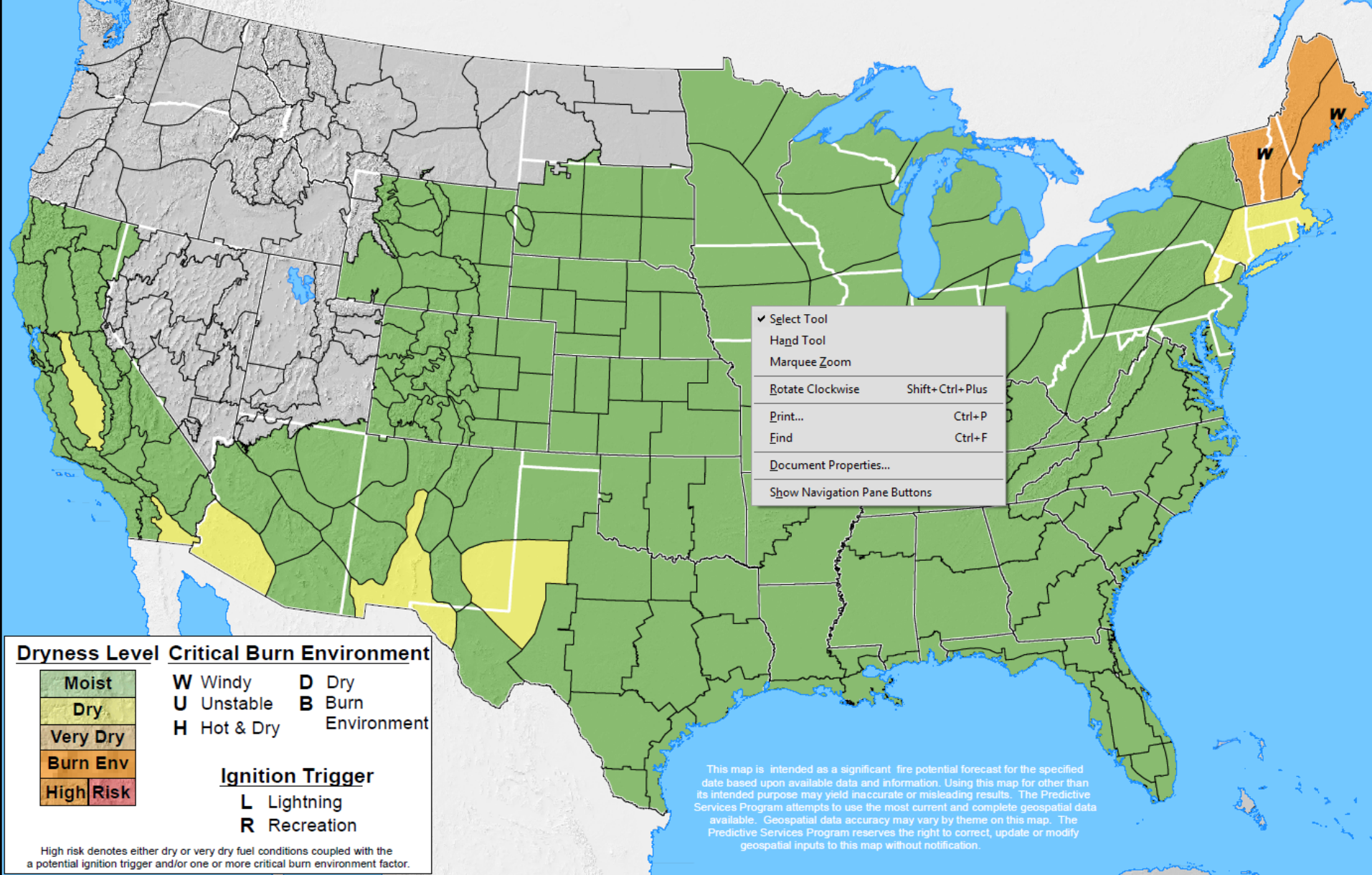
Harold Gemmell, Direct Fire Protection Coordinator
DNRC

hgemmell@mt.gov 406 329-4996









SIGNIFICANT FIRE POTENTIAL

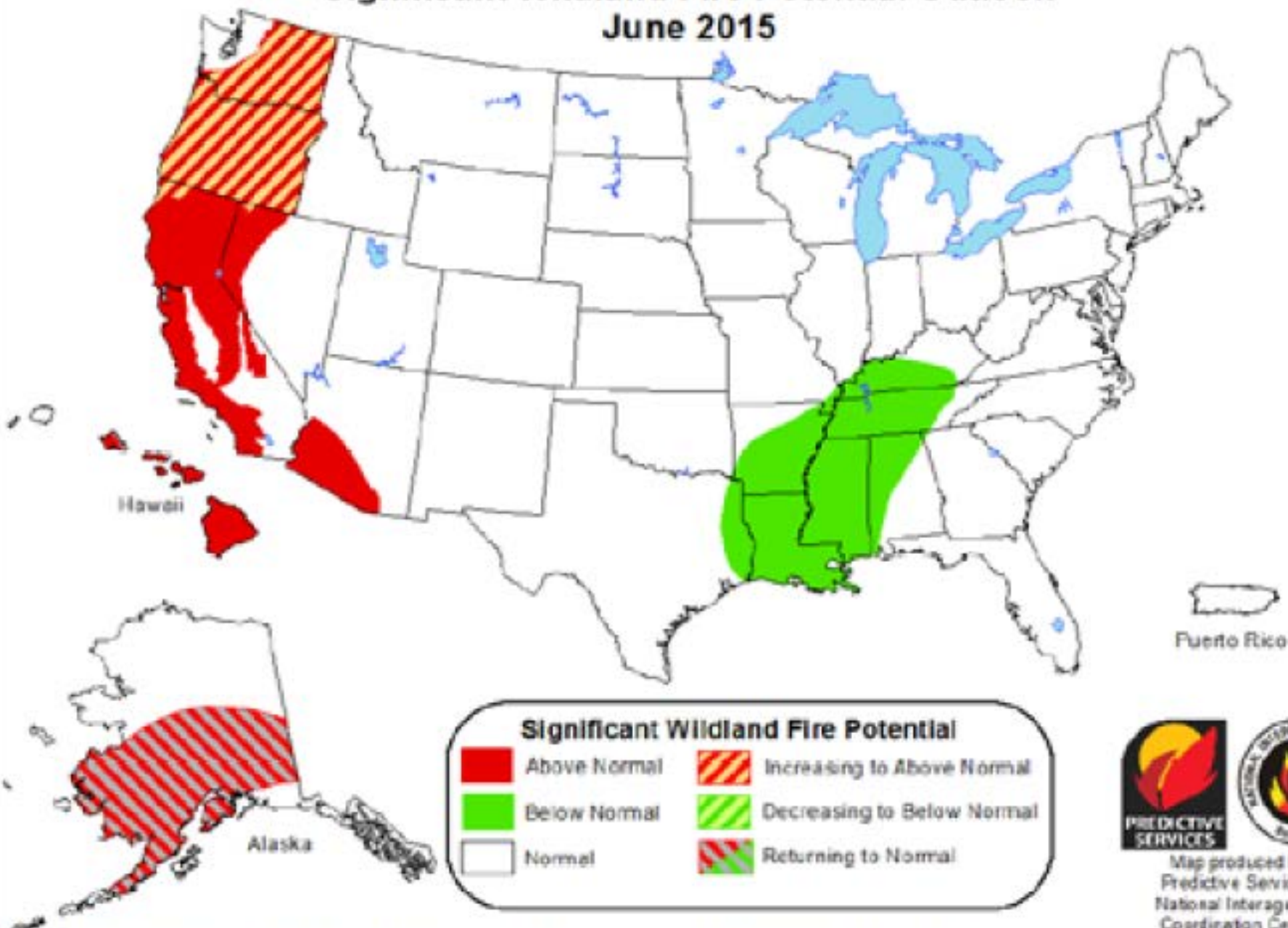
Valid For: Monday, May 18, 2015

Issued On: Monday, May 18, 2015 12:20 PM (MT)

Map produced by USDA Forest Service Remote Sensing Applications Center in Coordination with National Predictive Services Program



Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook June 2015



Significant Wildland Fire Potential

	Above Normal		Increasing to Above Normal
	Below Normal		Decreasing to Below Normal
	Normal		Returning to Normal

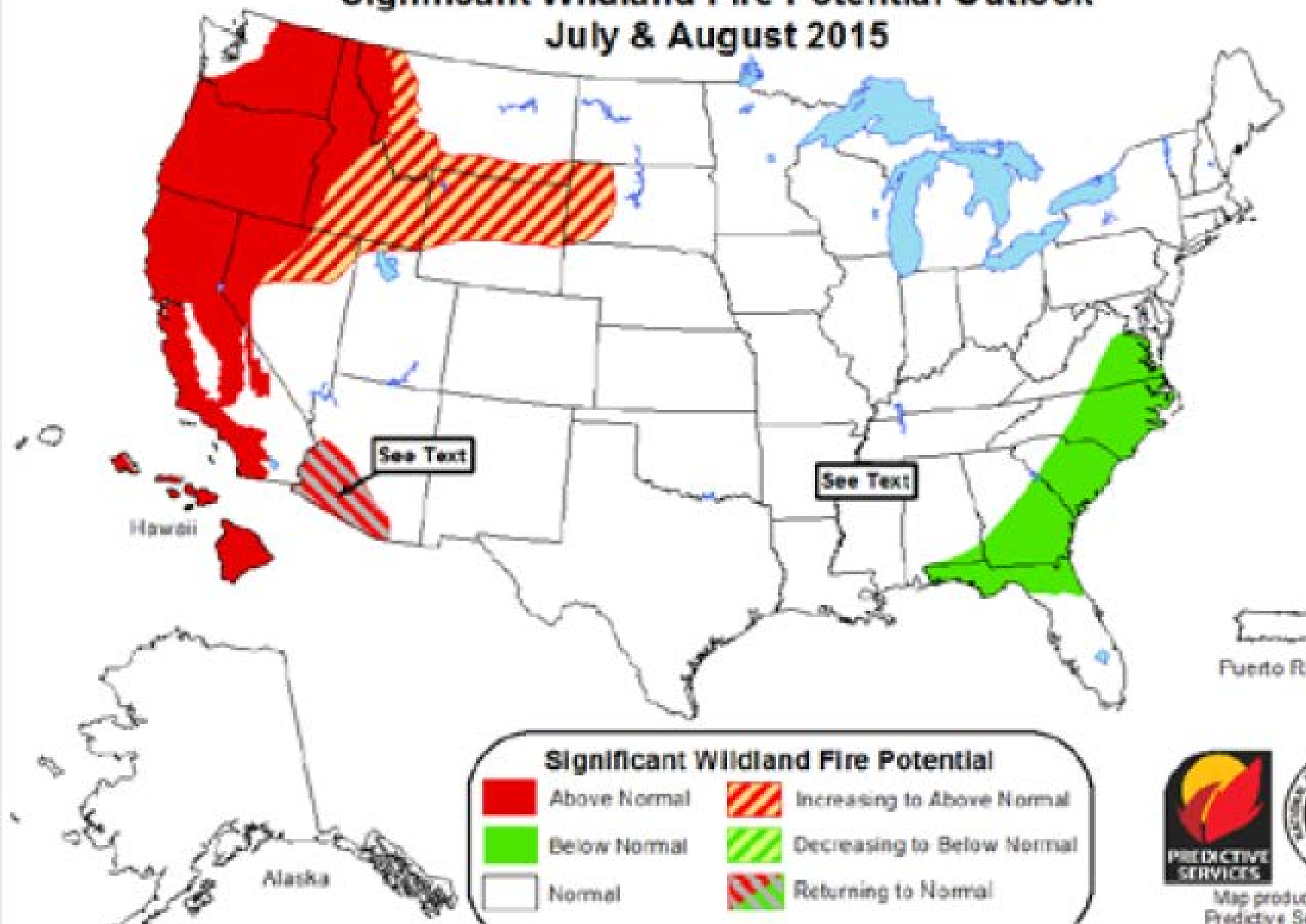


Map produced by
Predictive Services,
National Interagency
Coordination Center
Boise, Idaho

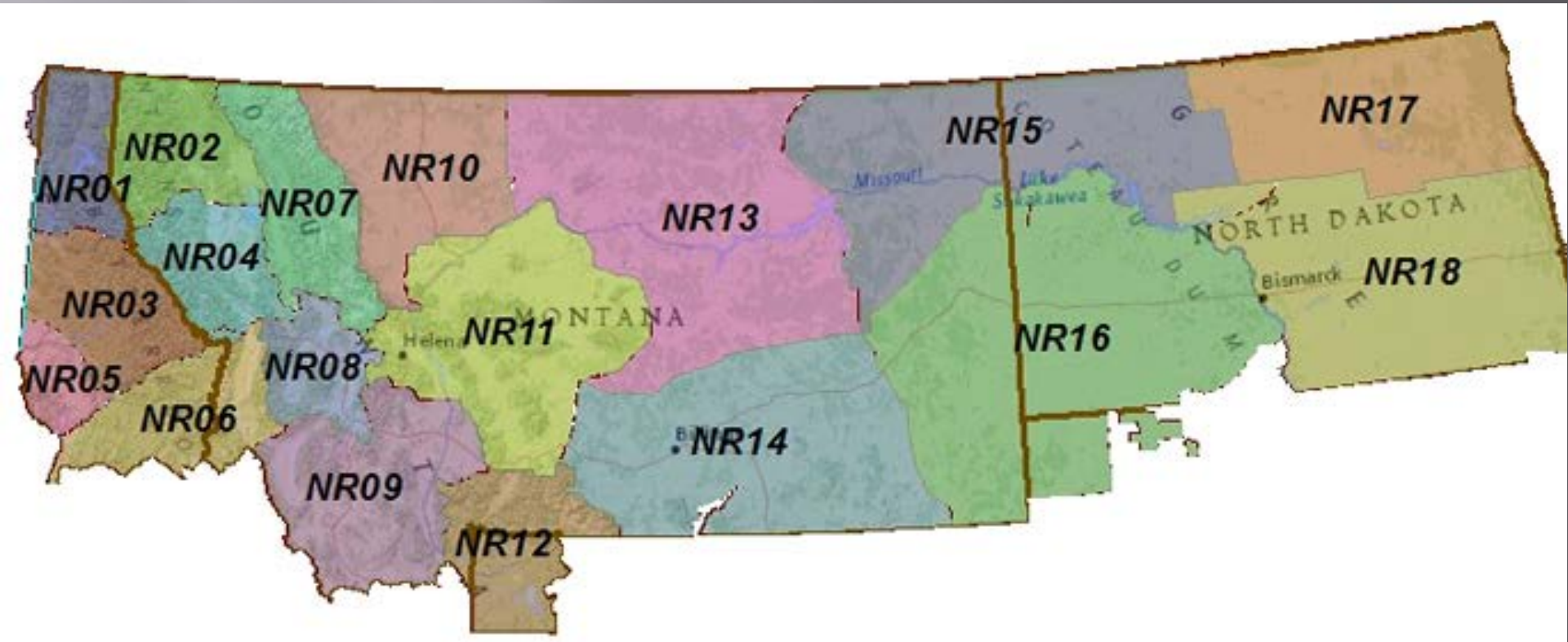
Issued May 1, 2015
Next issuance June 1, 2015

Above normal significant wildland fire potential indicates a higher than usual likelihood that wildland fires will occur and/or become significant events. Wildland fires are still expected to occur during forecasted normal conditions as would usually be expected during the outlook period. Significant wildland fires are still possible but less likely than usual during forecasted below normal periods.

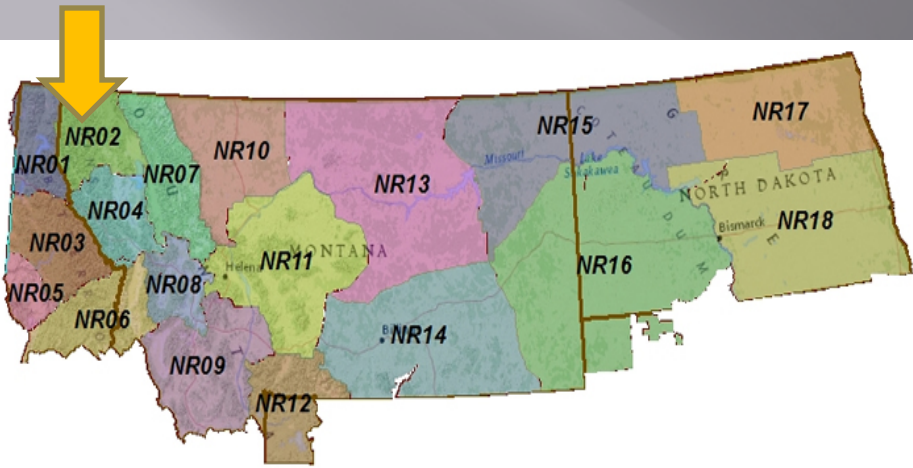
Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook July & August 2015



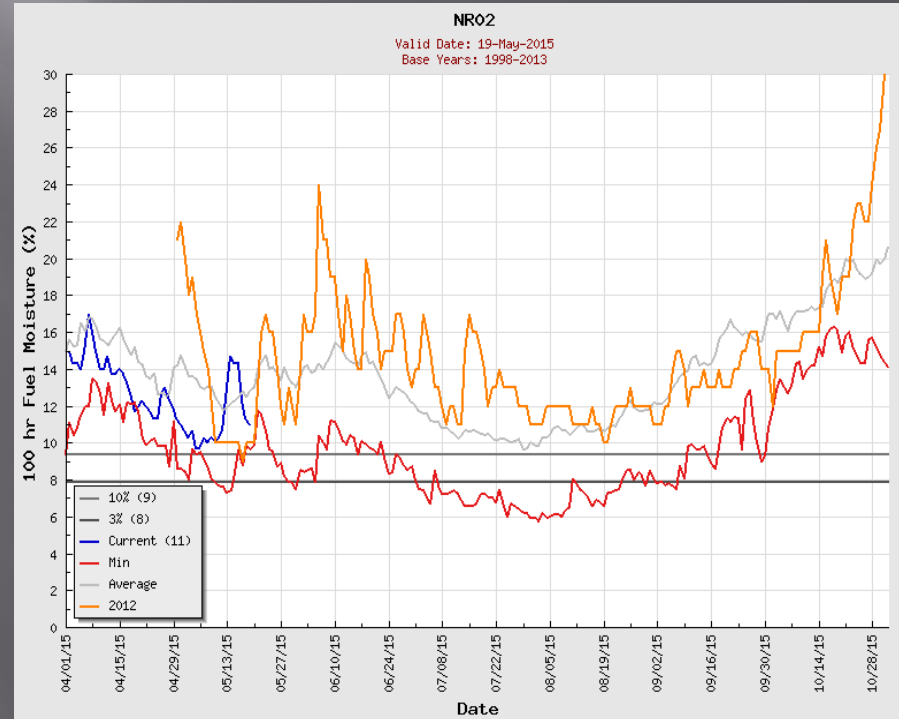
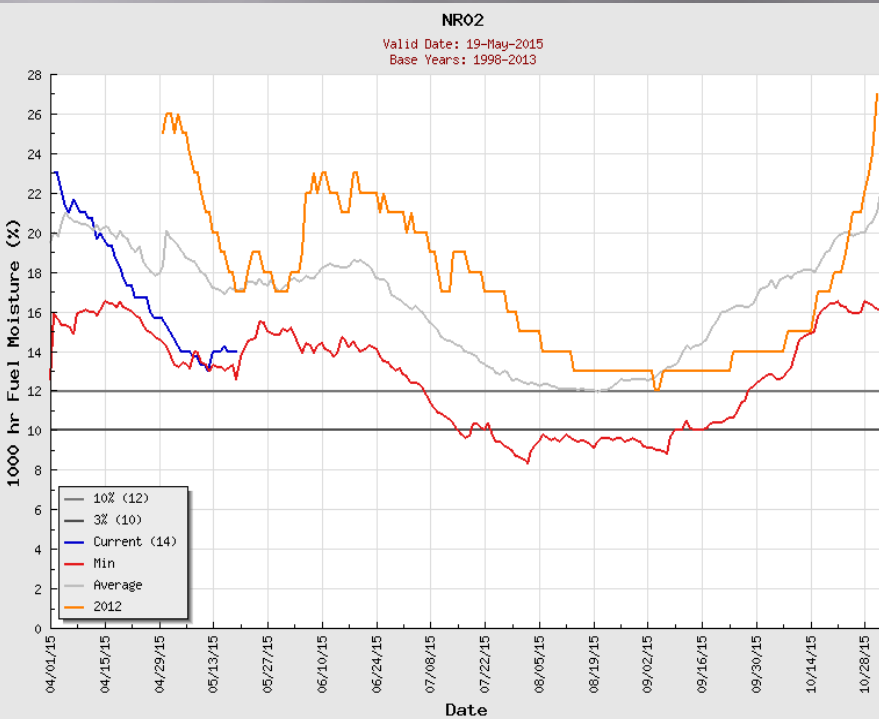
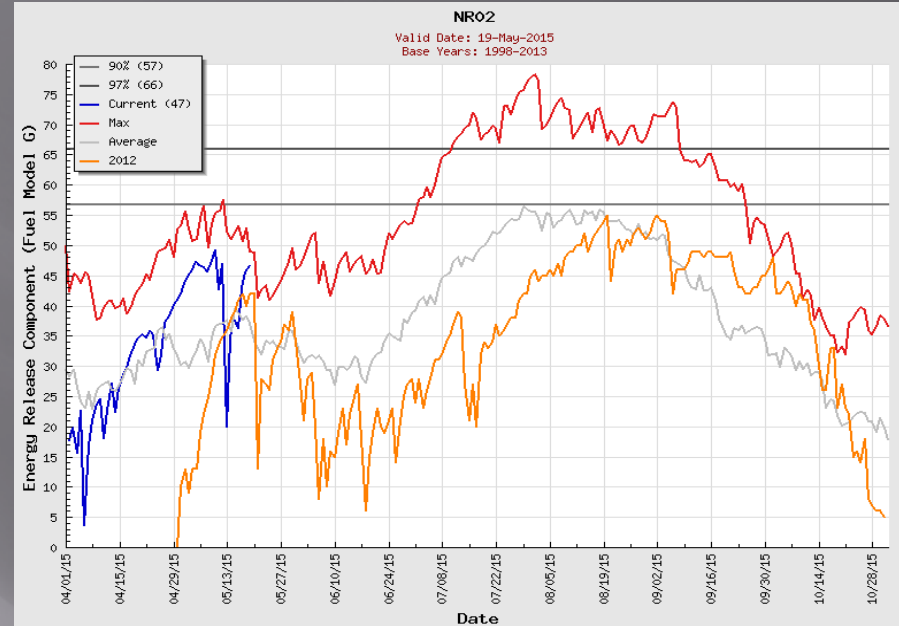
NORTHERN ROCKIES GEOGRAPHIC AREA PREDICTIVE SERVICE AREAS



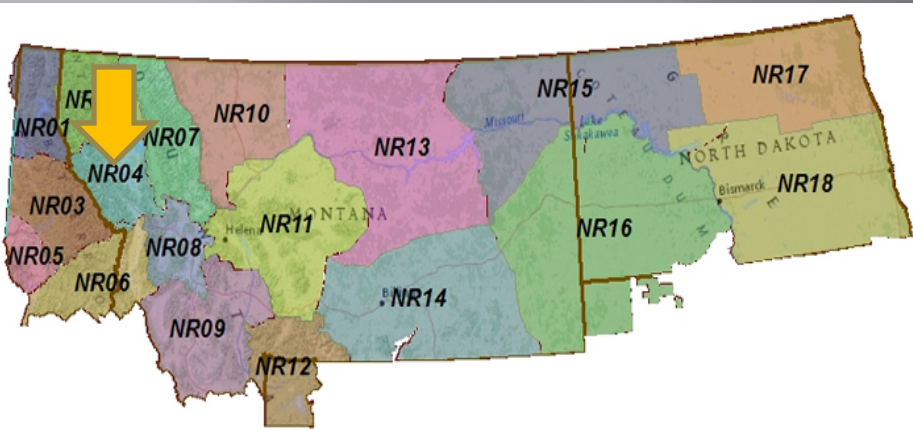
NR02 - Northwestern Montana



Libby Ranger Station
Troy Ranger Station
Eureka Ranger Station

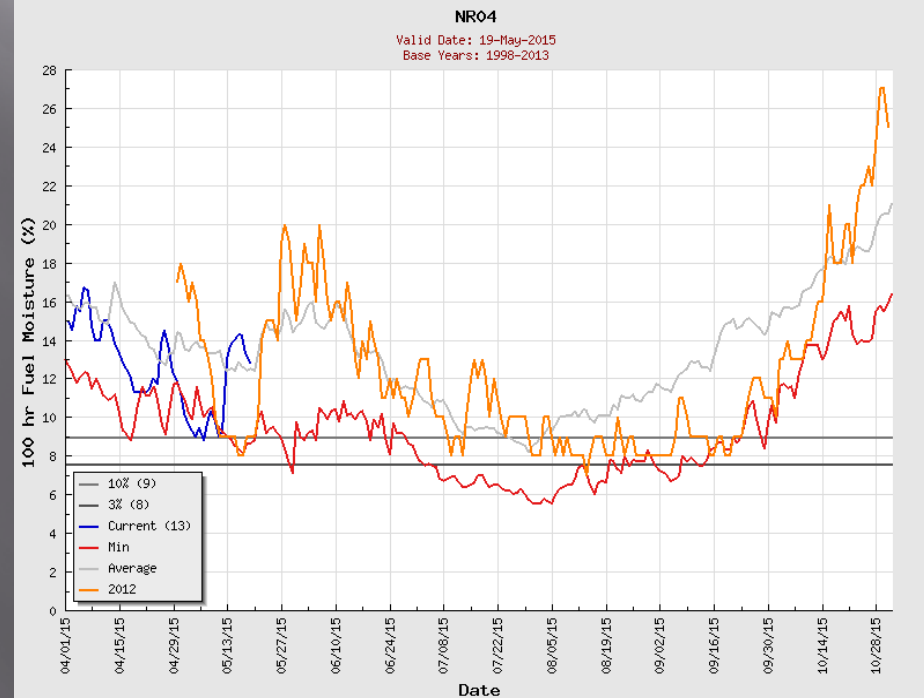
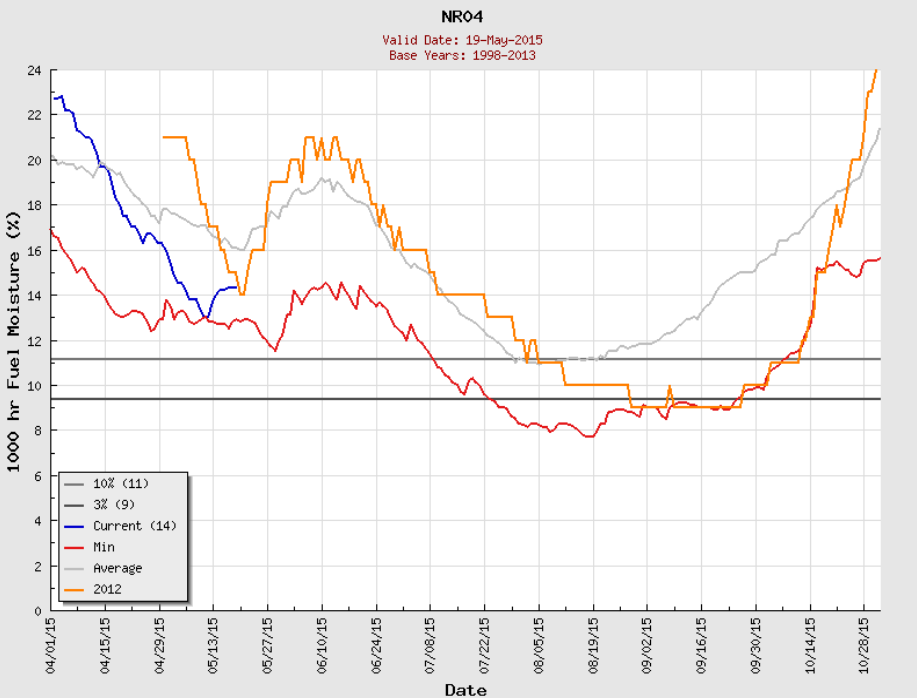
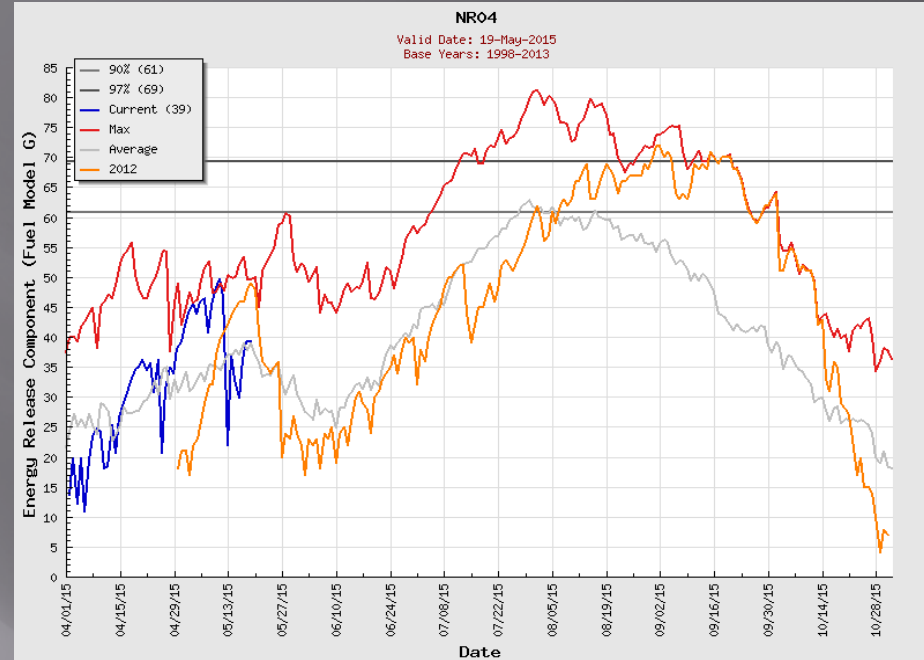


NR04 – Western Montana

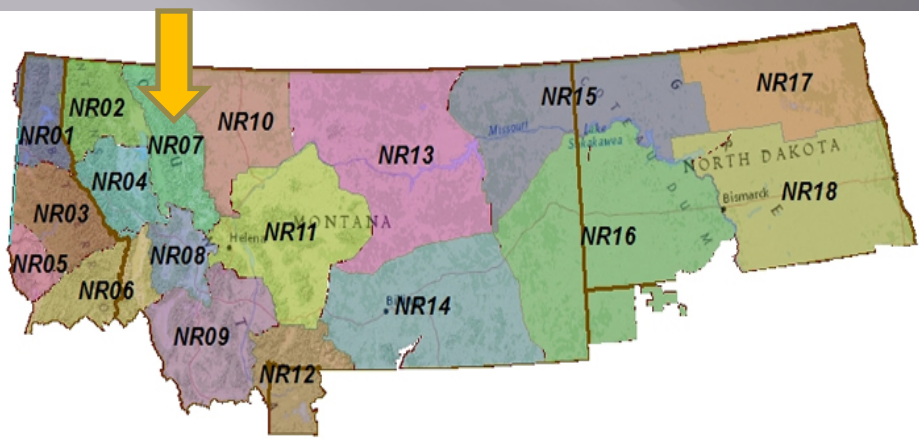


Plains
Missoula
St. Regis

Hot Springs
Nine Mile

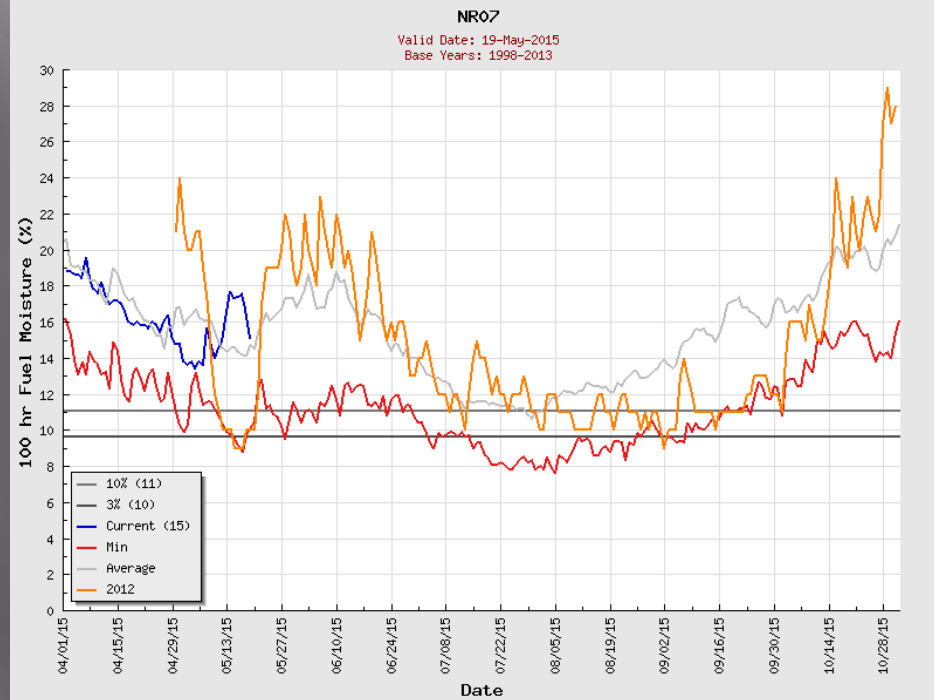
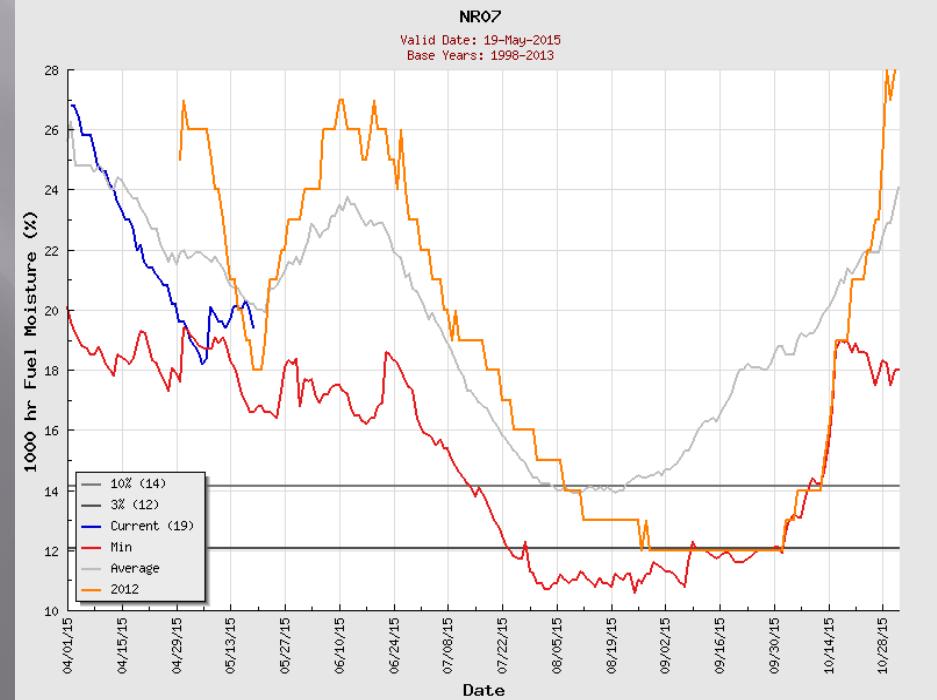
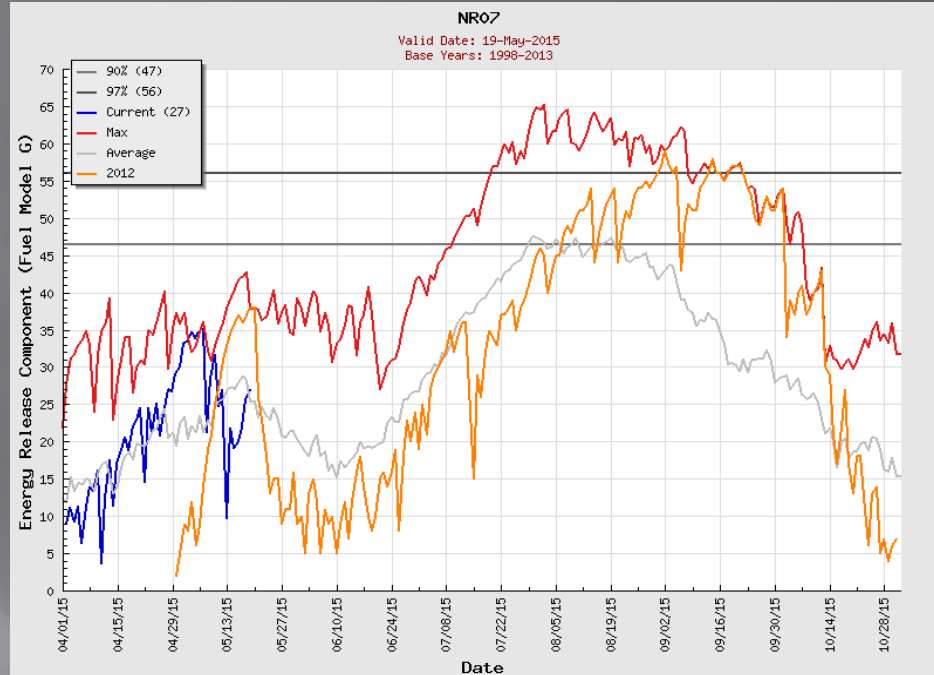


NR07 - Glacier National Park and Wilderness Areas

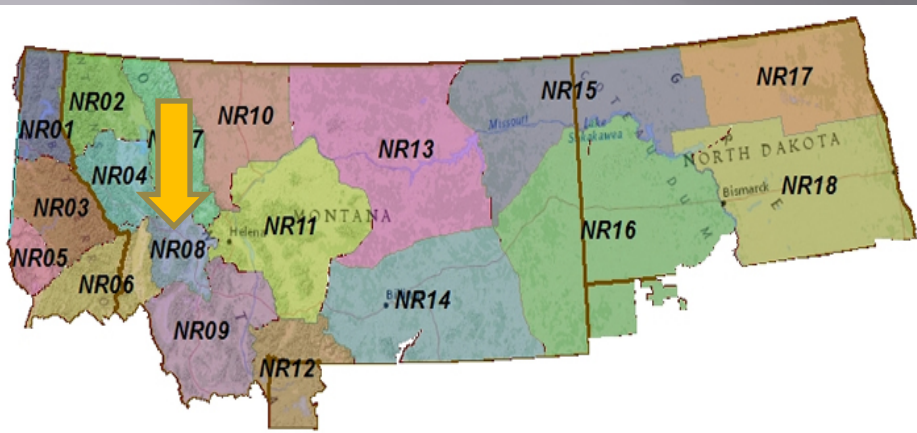


West Glacier
Cyclone
Condon Work Center

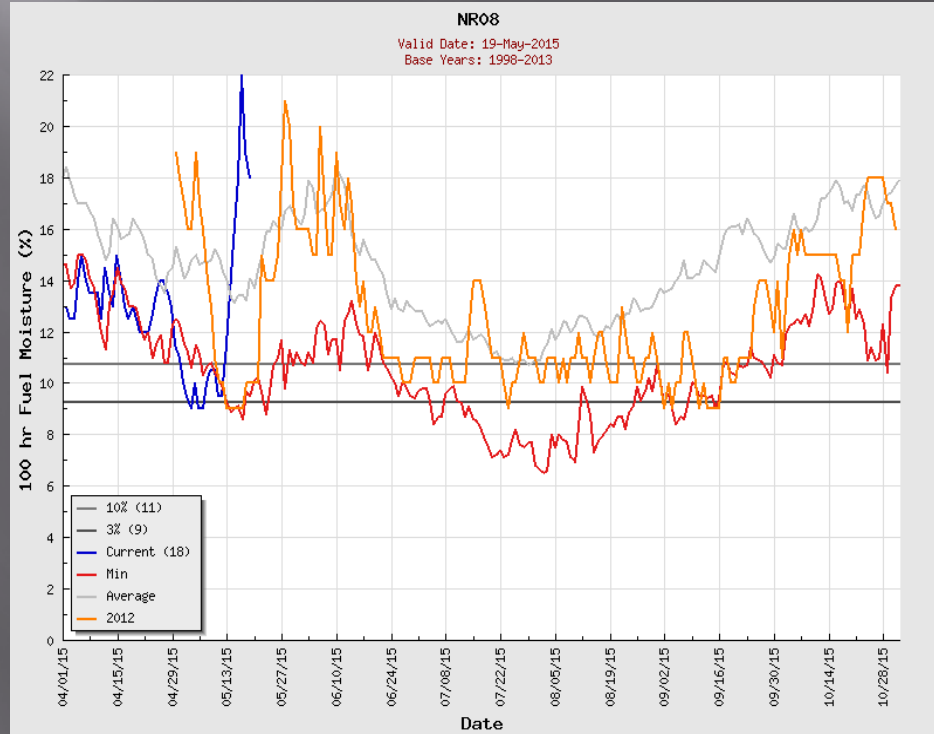
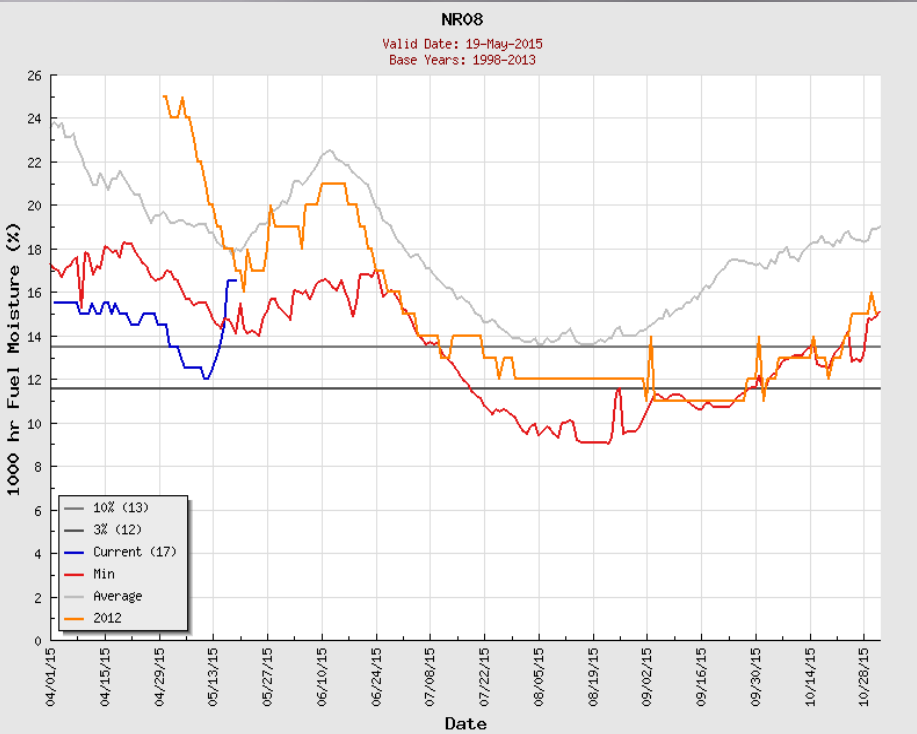
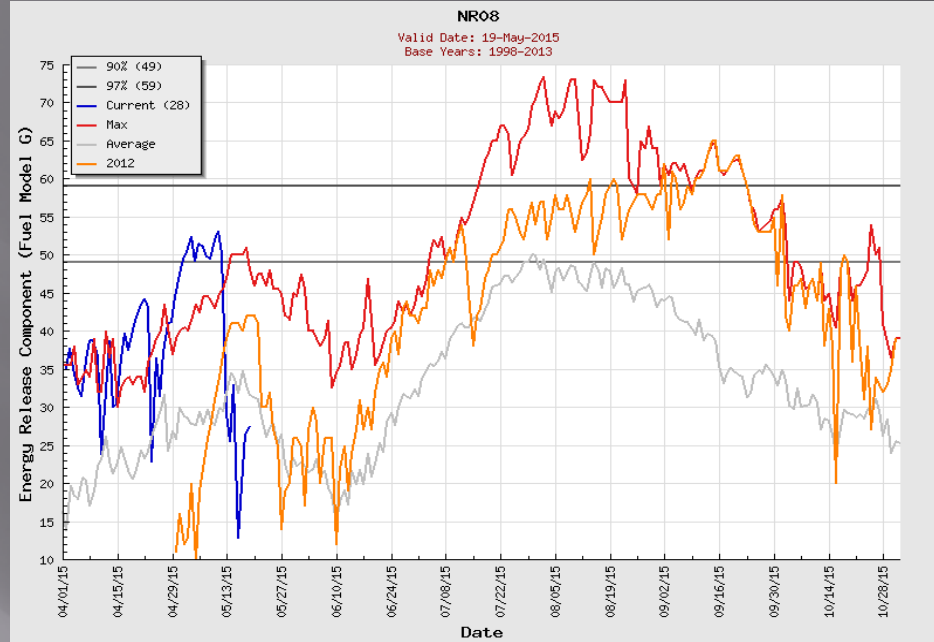
Hungry Horse
Benchmark



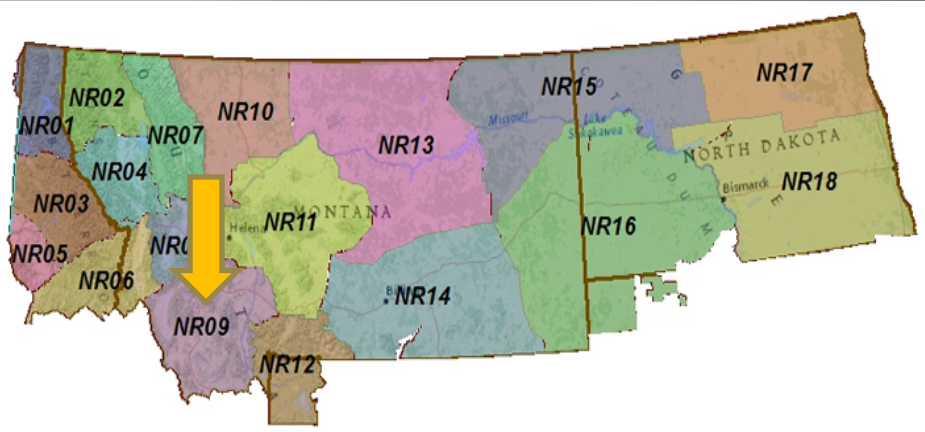
NR08 – Southwest Montana, West of Continental Divide



Lincoln
Phillipsburg

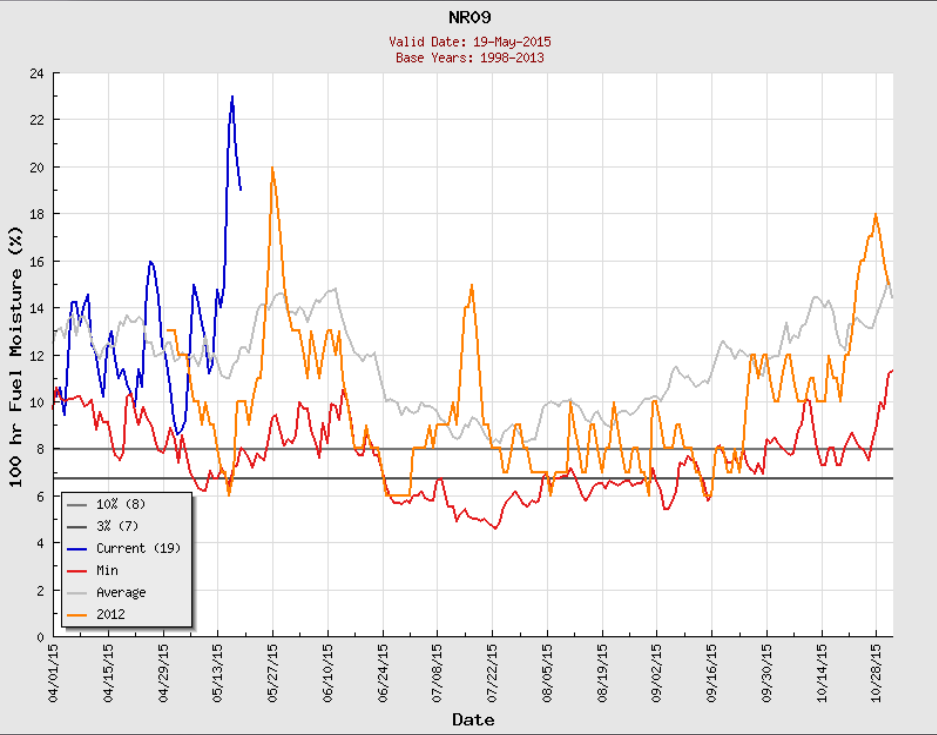
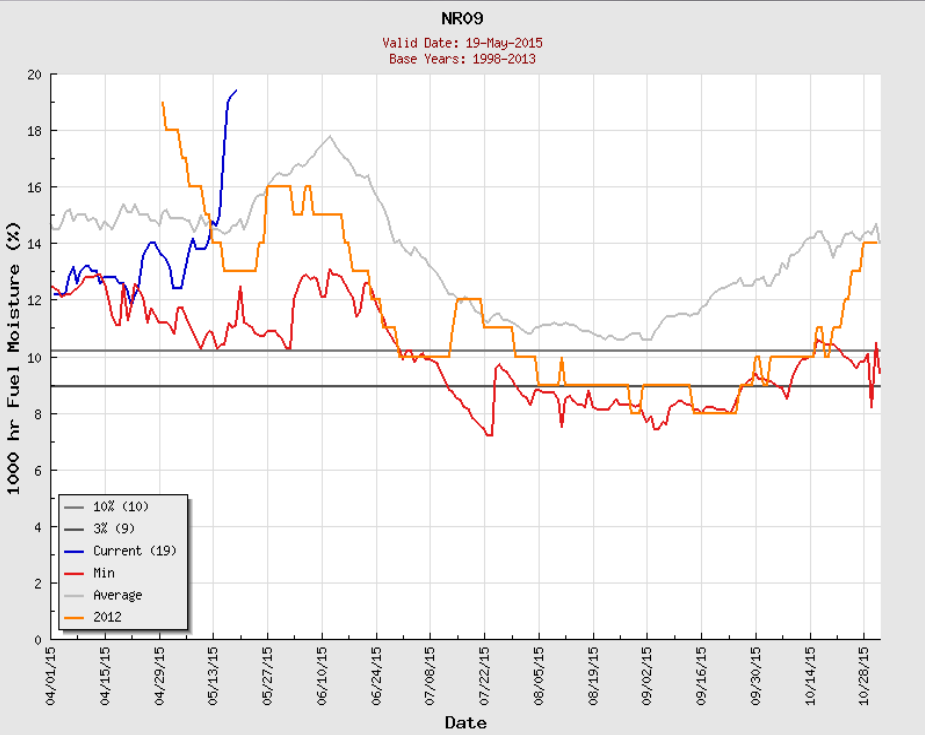
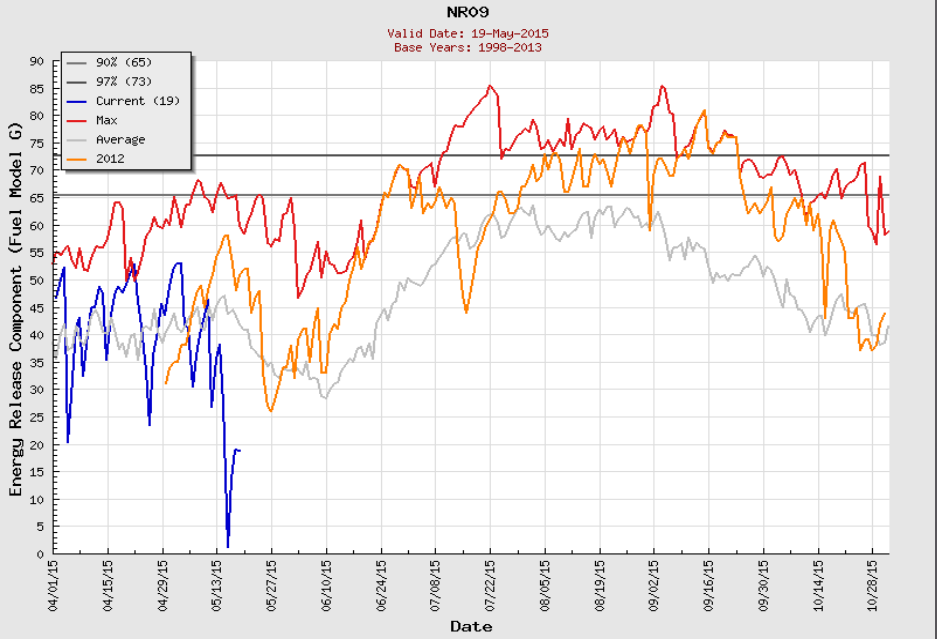


NR09 – Big Hole, Southwest Montana East of Continental Divide

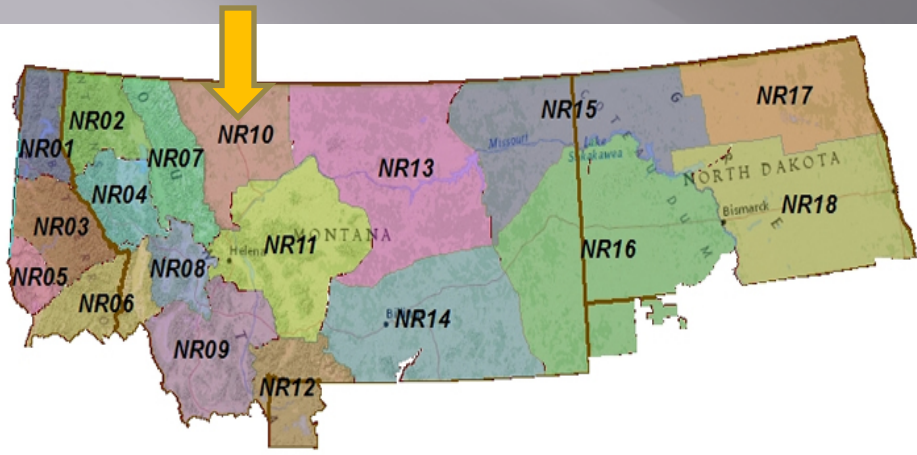


Jefferson
Brenner

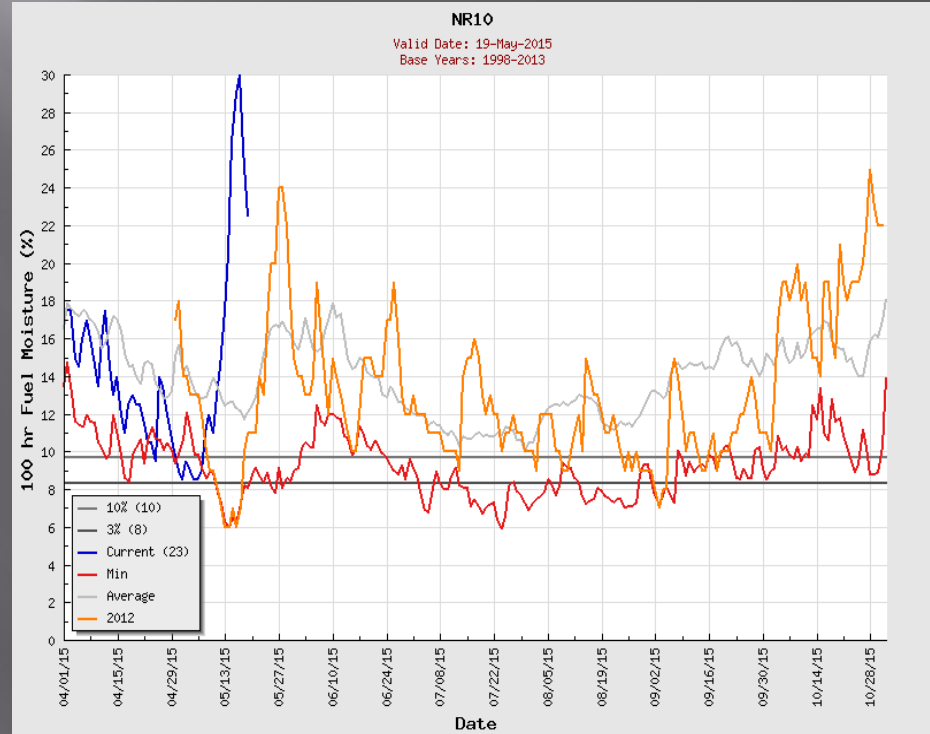
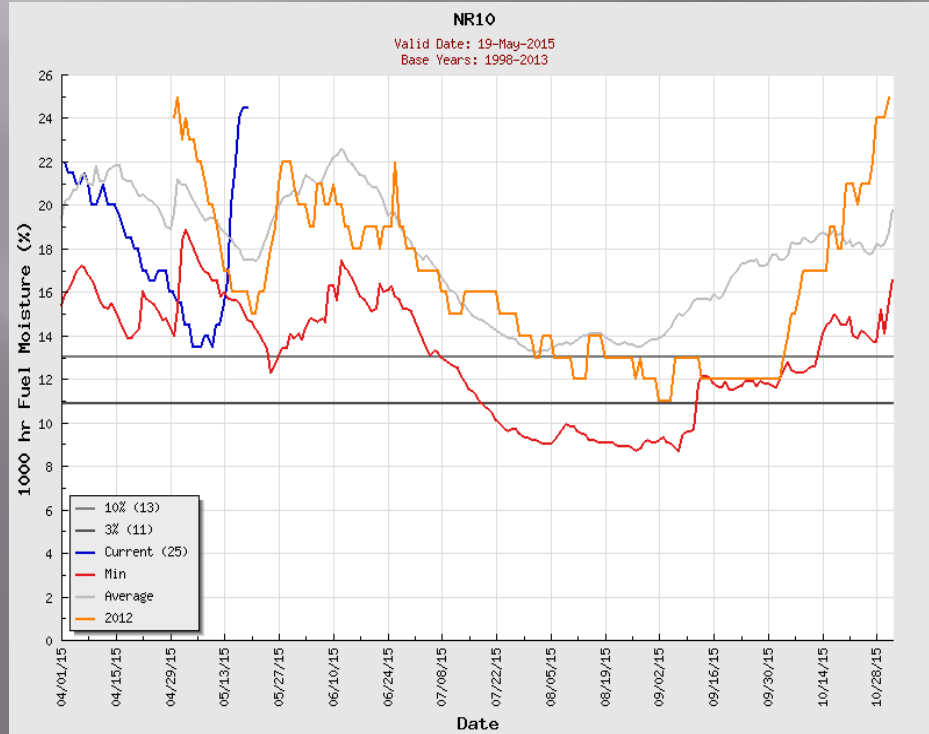
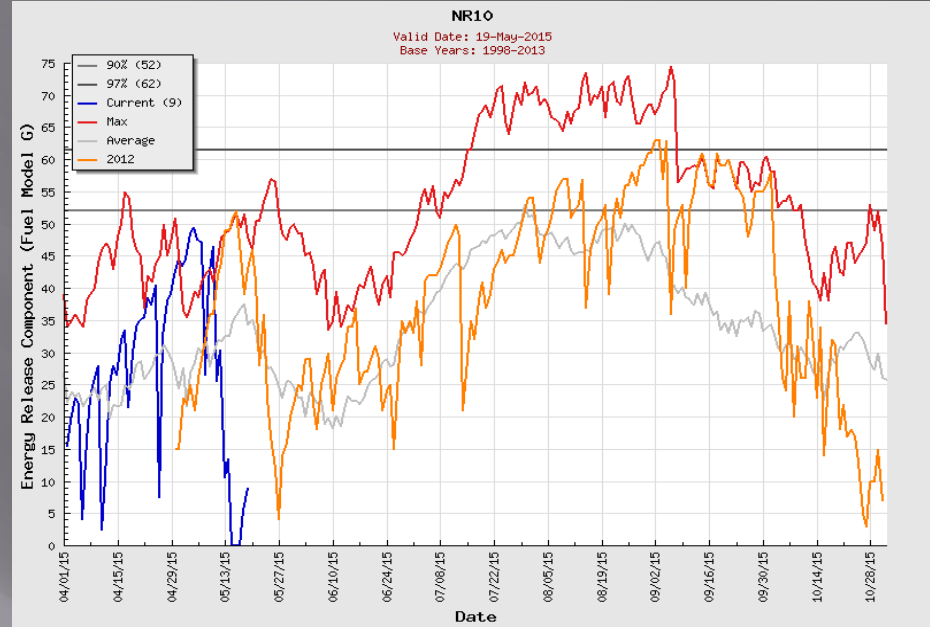
Ennis
Wise River



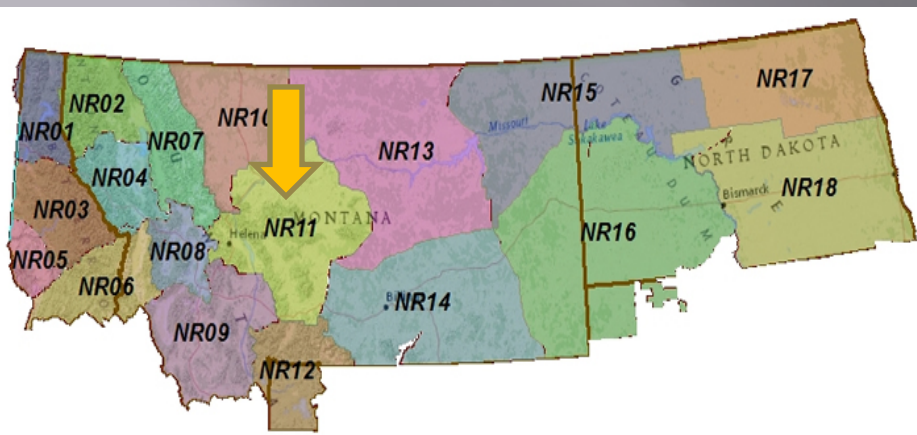
NR10 – Northern Front Range



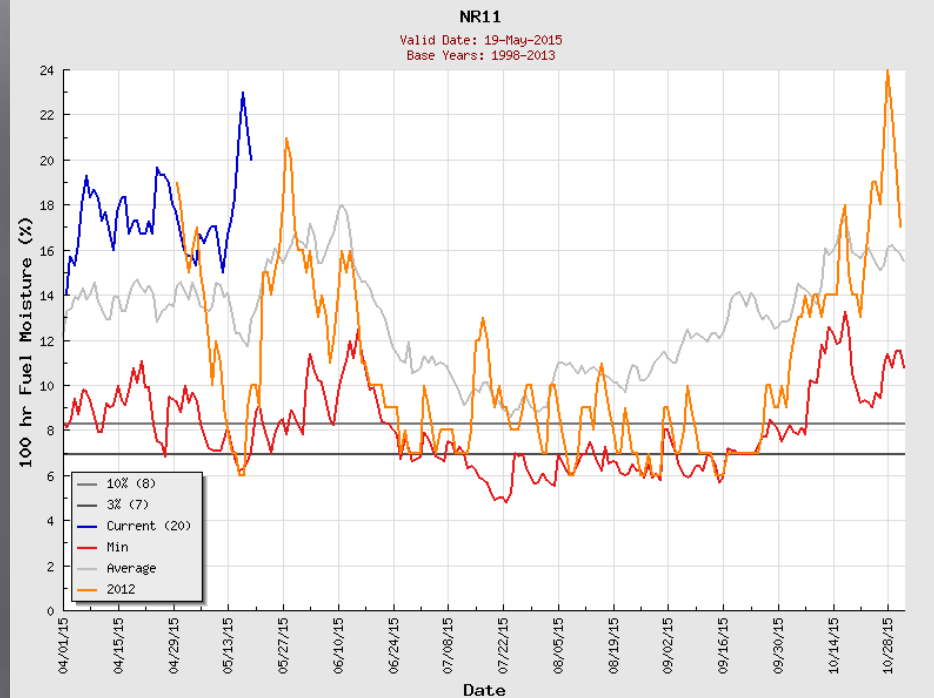
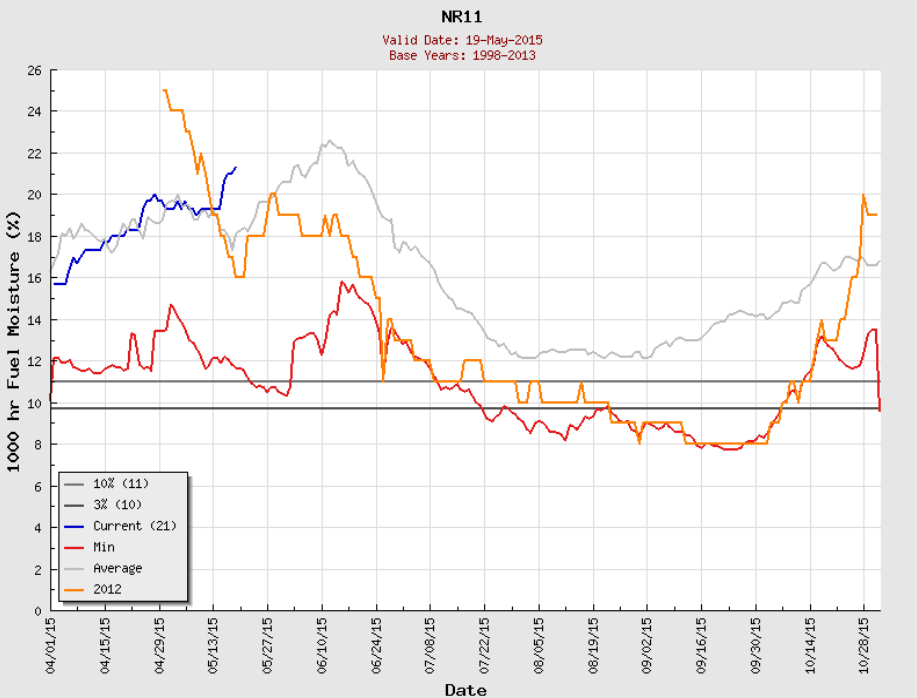
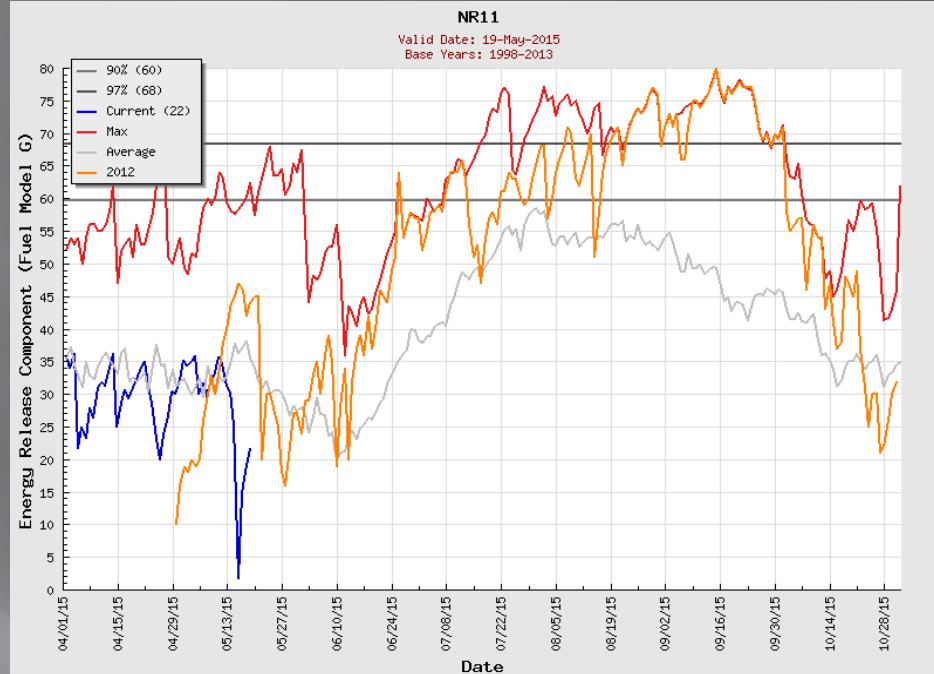
St. Mary
Gleason



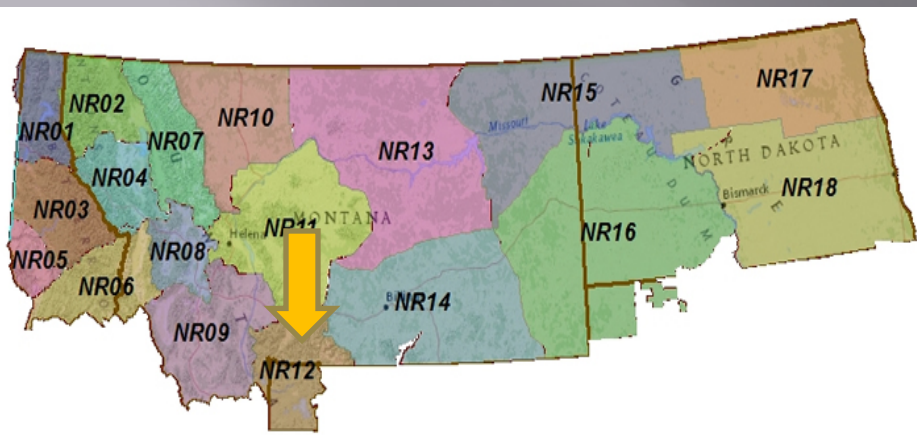
NR11 – West Central Montana



Helena
Porphyry
White Sulphur Springs

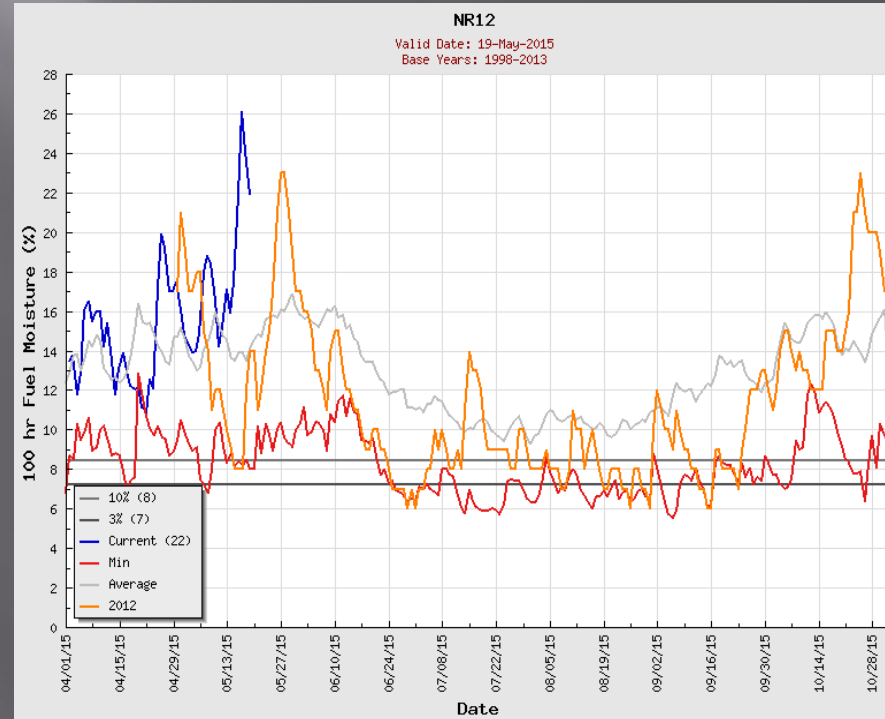
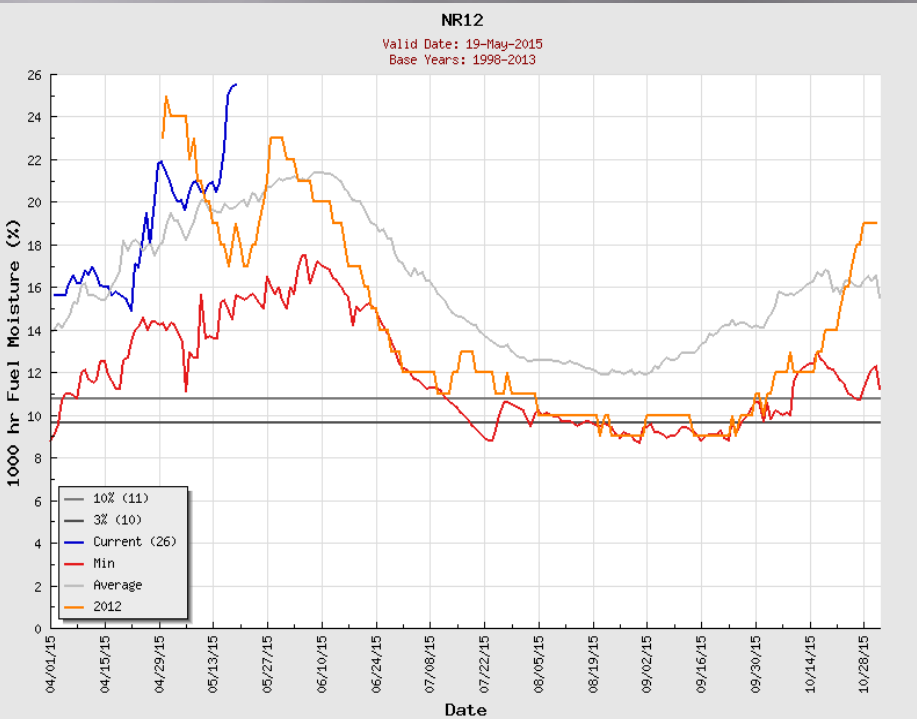
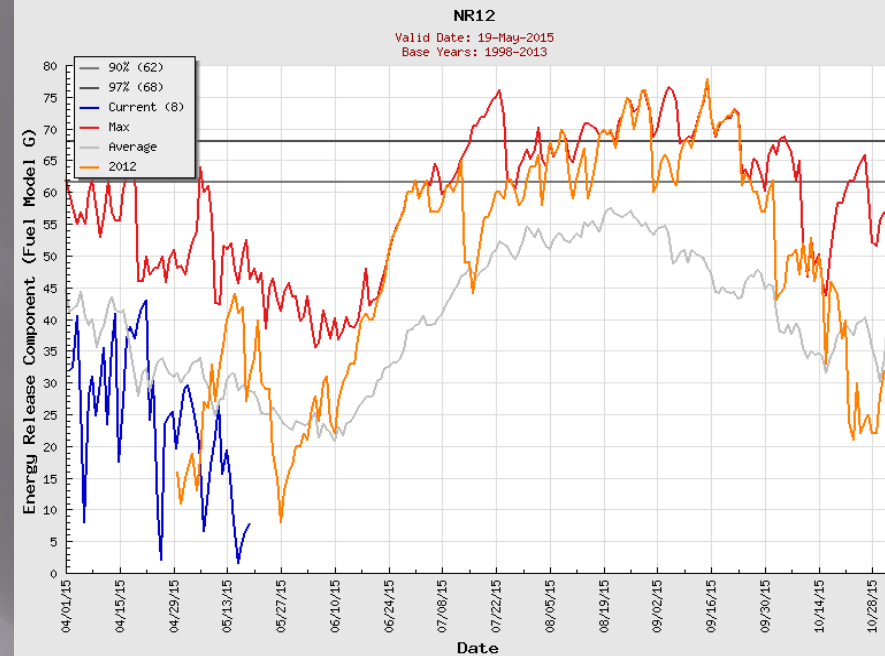


NR12 – South Central Montana and Yellowstone YP

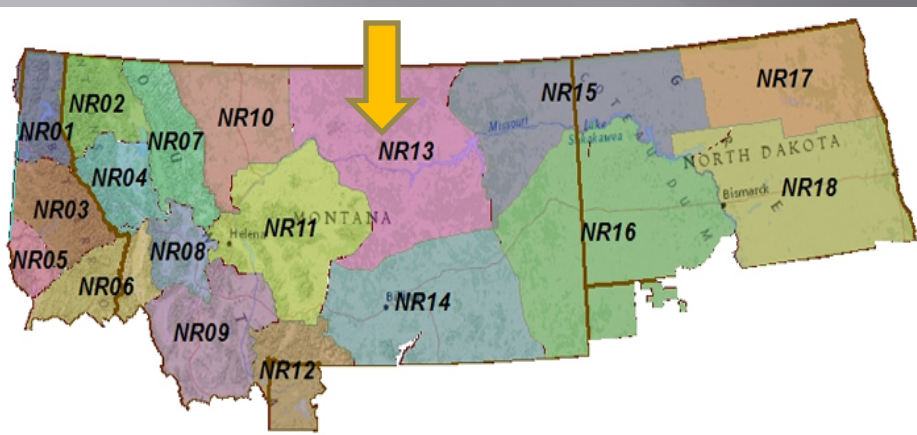


Shenango
Fishtail
Bechler

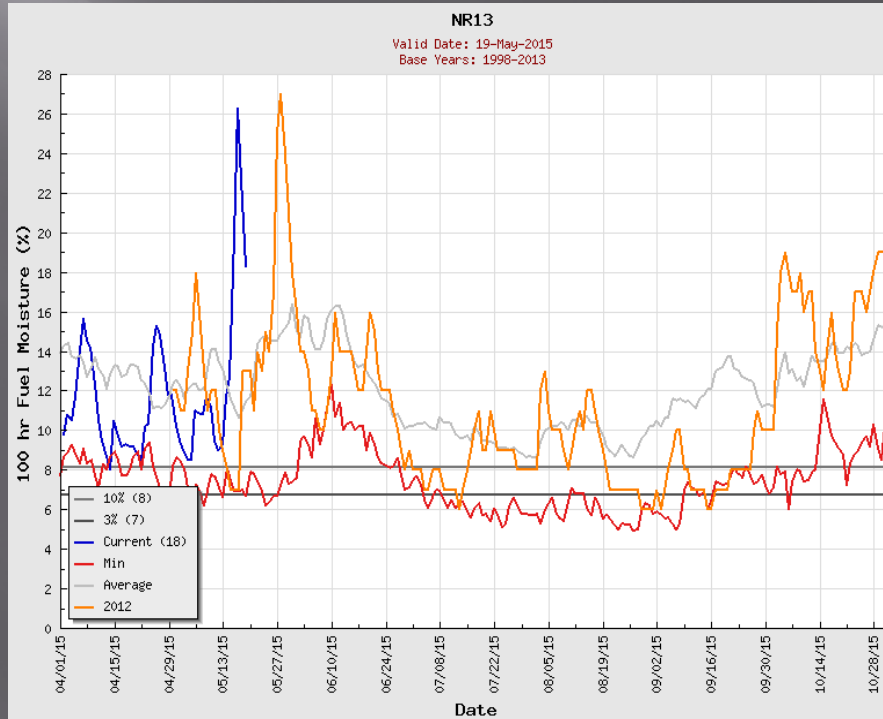
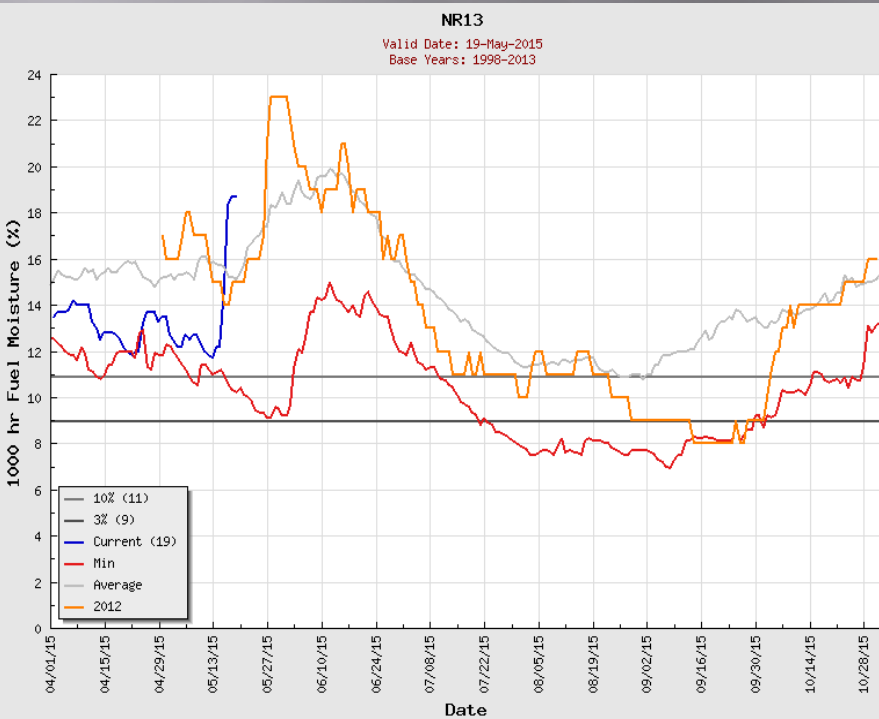
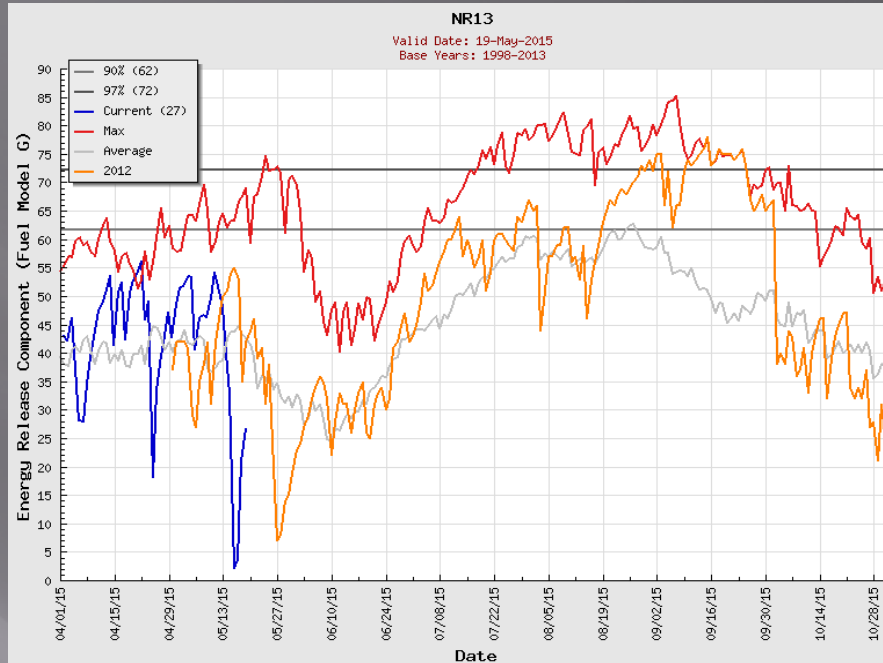
Hebgen Lake
Timbercrest
Quadrant



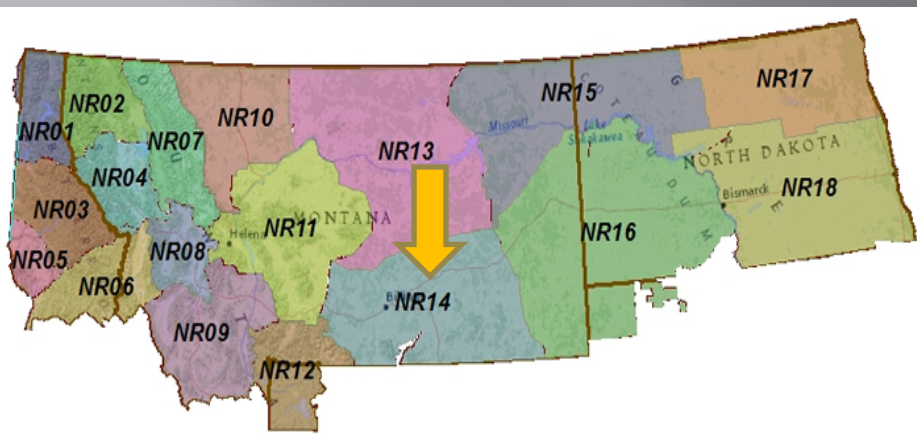
NR13 – Northern Plains and Missouri Breaks



Rocky Boy Little Bullwhacker
Bluff Creek King Coulee
Armells Creek South Sawmill Creek

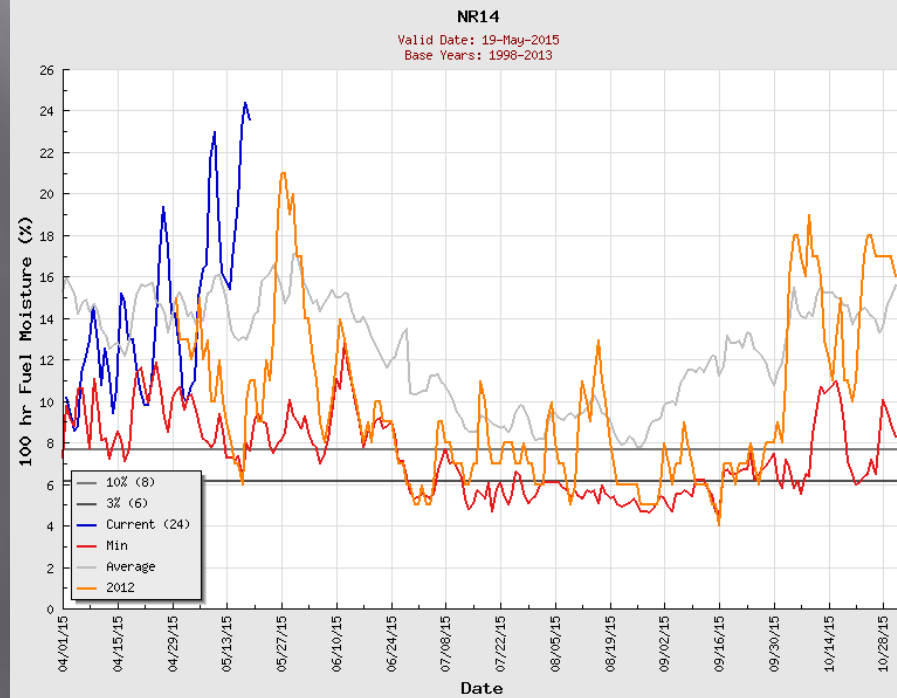
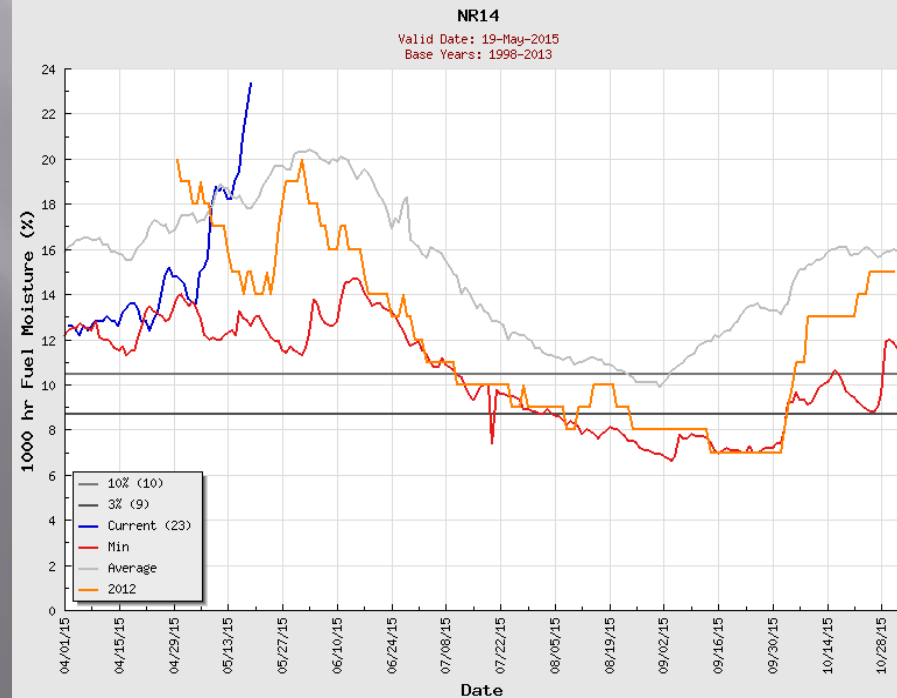
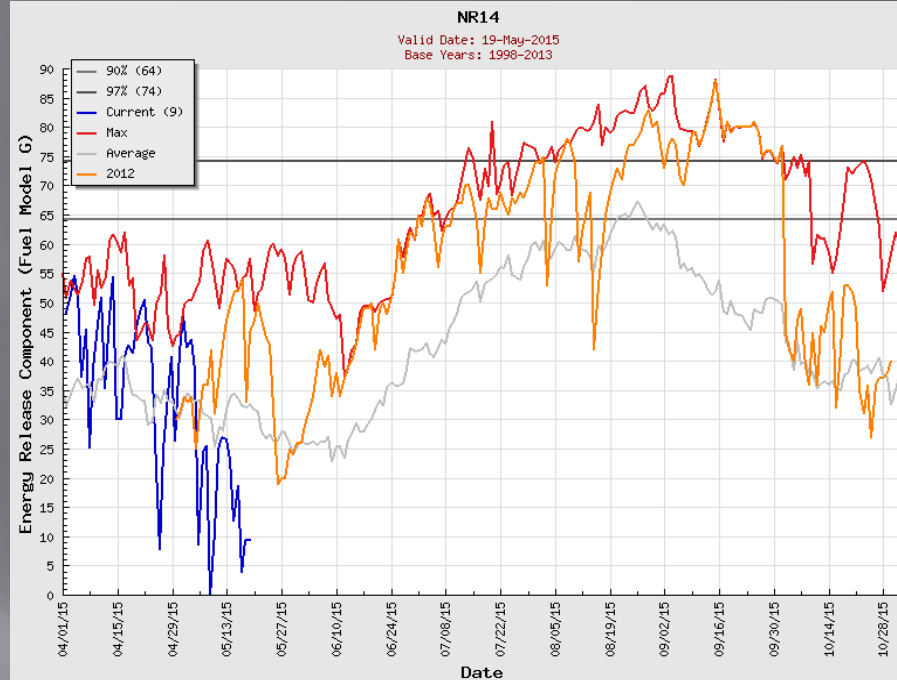


NR14 – Southern Montana (Big Horn/Powder River)

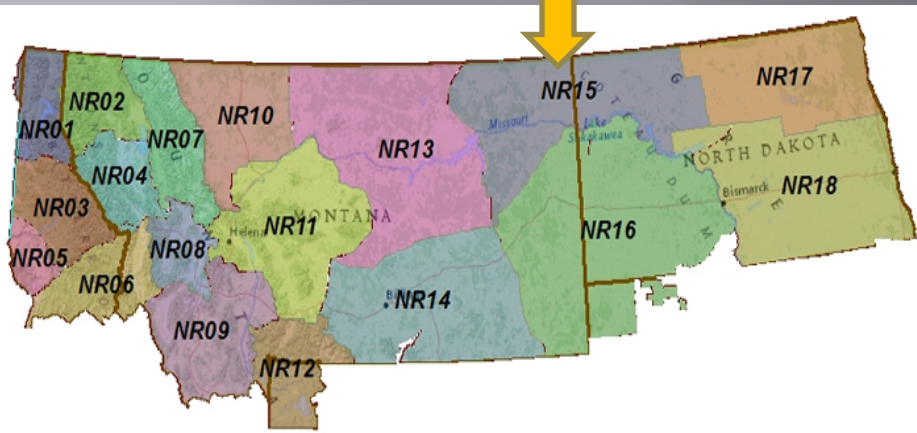


Wolf Mountain
Bighorn Mountain
Fort Howes

Pryor Mountain
Badger Peak

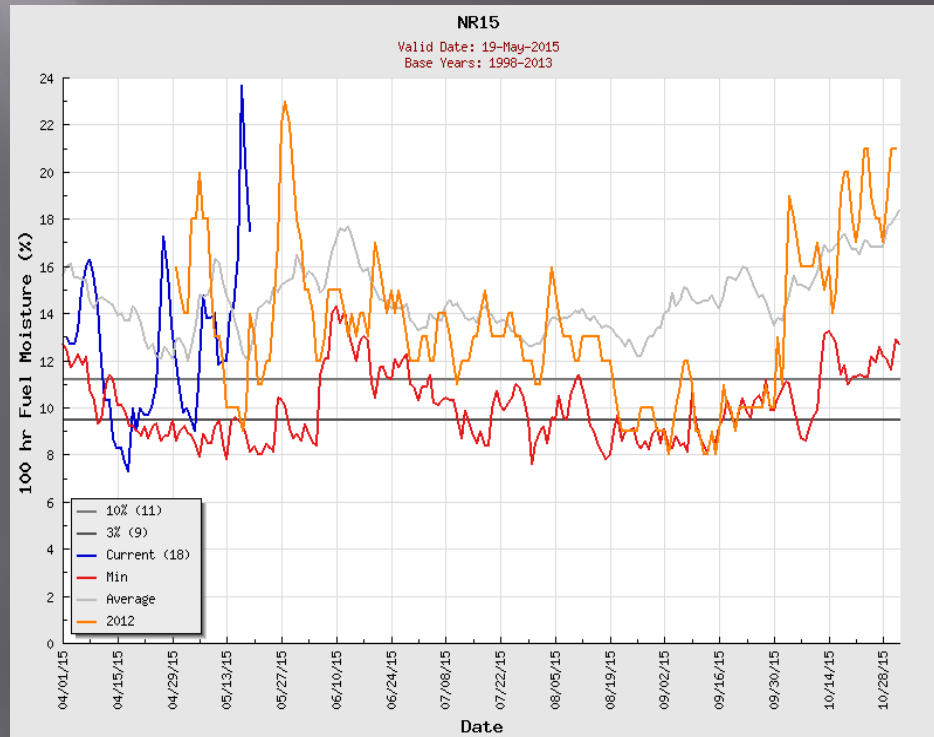
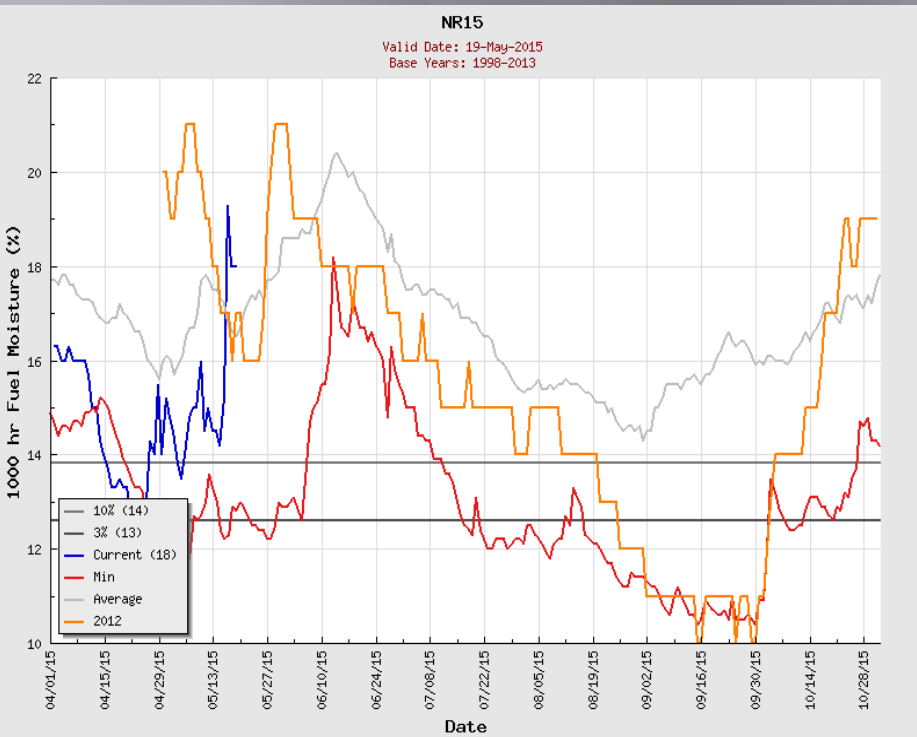
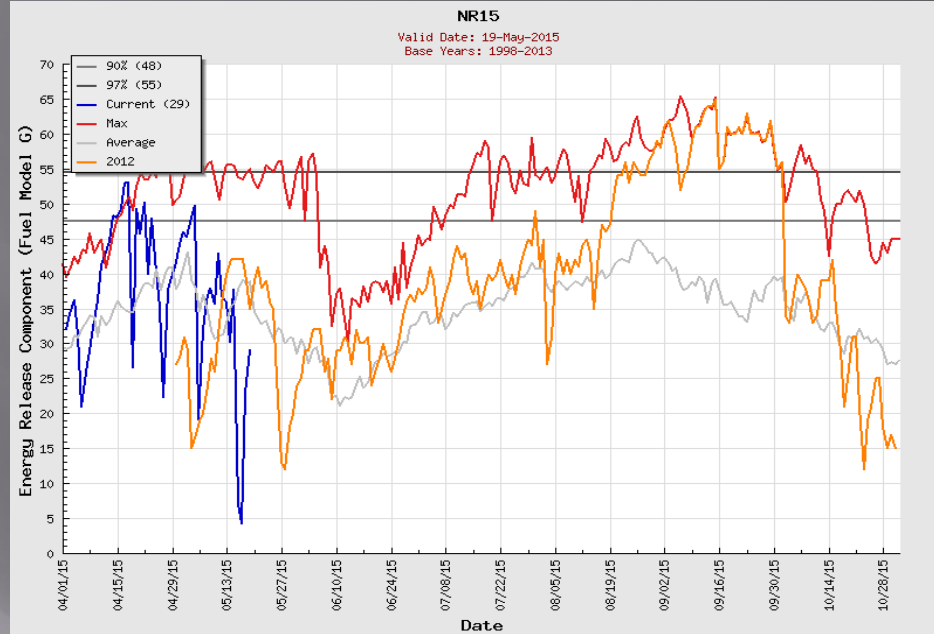


NR15 – Northeast Montana/Northwest North Dakota

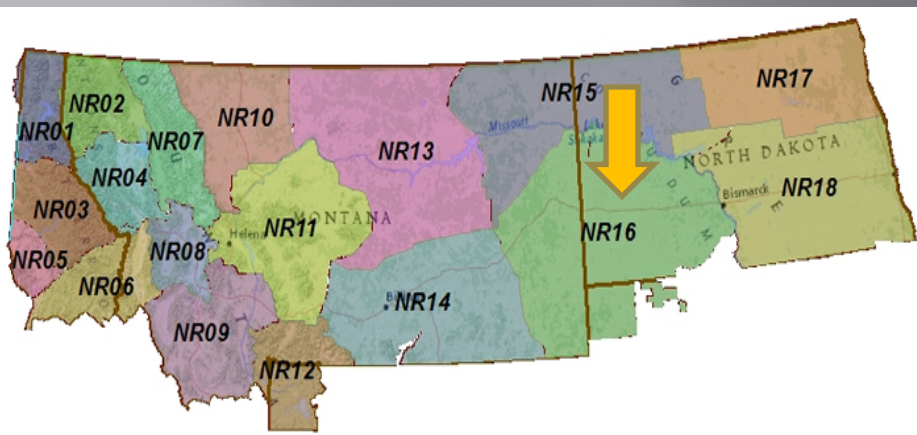


Poplar
Lostwood

Crosby
Watford City

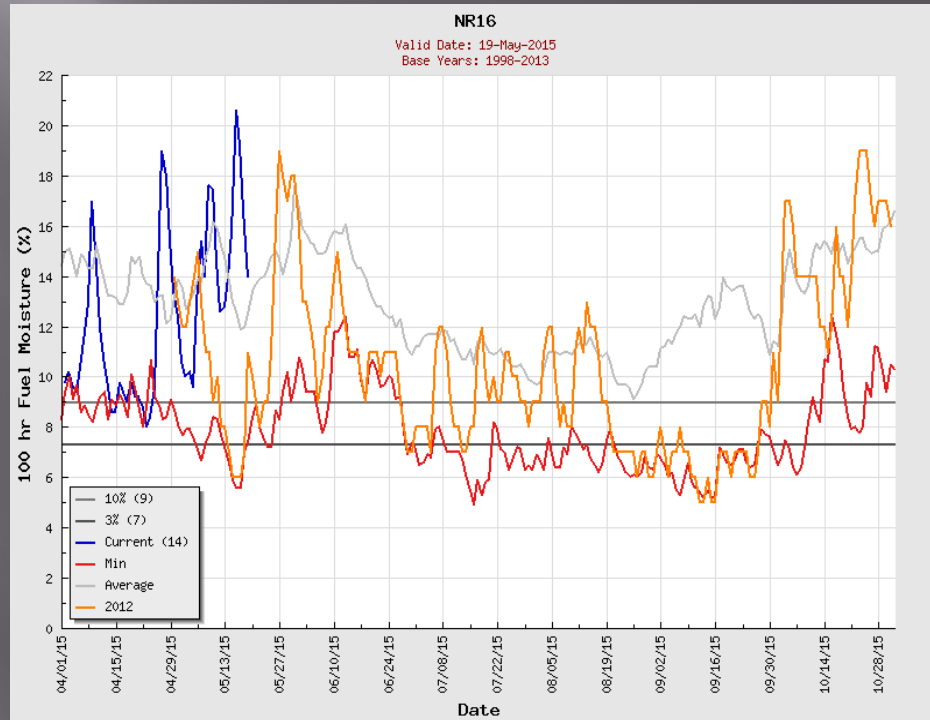
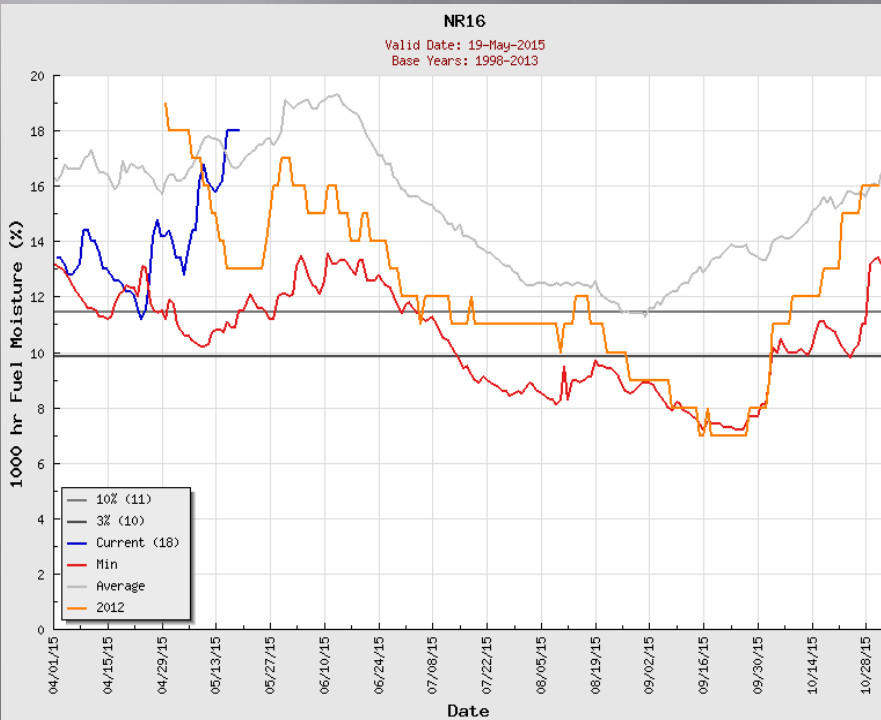
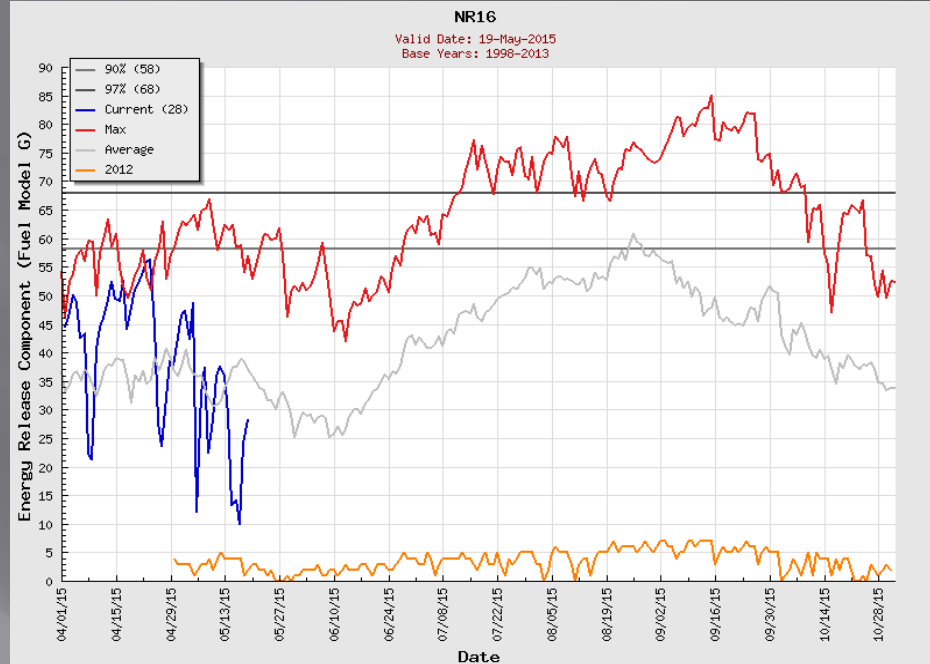


NR16 – Southeastern Montana/Southwestern South Dakota



Big Sheep Mountain
Cannonball Creek

Knowlton
Sand Creek





NRCC

Northern Rockies Coordination Center

*Mobilizing Incident Resources
...throughout Montana, North Dakota,
Northern Idaho, a small portion of
Northwestern South Dakota and
Yellowstone National Park*

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Wednesday, May 22, 2013

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[Area](#)

Welcome to the NORTHERN ROCKIES COORDINATION CENTER

The **Northern Rockies Coordination Center (NRCC)** is the interagency focal point for coordinating the mobilization of resources for wildland fire and other all-hazard incidents throughout the Northern Rockies Area and, when necessary, for assignment throughout the United States. Located in Missoula, Montana, the Center also provides Intelligence and Predictive Services related products for use by the wildland fire community for purposes of wildland fire and incident management decision-making.

There are five primary components to the NRCC website.

- [Incident Information](#) provides general information on large wildland fires, fire restrictions and closures, and other relevant activity throughout the Geographic Area.
- [Predictive Services](#) provides operational products and links to incident situation information, maps, resources, current fire weather conditions, forecasts, fuels, fire behavior as well as daily, weekly and monthly fire weather/fire danger outlooks.
- [Logistics/Dispatch](#) provides detailed operation and information links for aviation, crews, equipment and overhead, including Incident Management Teams.
- [Administrative](#) provides fire and incident management tools and links including policies and reports, business management, safety, software applications, and training.
- [Related Links](#) component provides links to related Internet websites within the Northern Rockies Area and nationally.



BULLETIN BOARD

SITUATION

PREPAREDNESS LEVELS

Northern Rockies PL: **1**
National PL: **1**

[Situation Reports](#)

[Year-to-Date & Historical Wildfire Data](#)

... [Restrictions & Closures](#) ...

SAFETY ALERTS

[NRGA Landscape Mortality Safety Alert](#)
[NRGA Landscape Mortality Pocket Card](#)

[Coal Seam Fires Safety](#)

COOPERATING FEDERAL, STATE AND OTHER AGENCIES IN THE NORTHERN ROCKIES AREA





Montana Drought and Water Supply

Status change from April to May 2015 – Assessed 5/6/2015

(All changes one category unless otherwise noted)

Drier

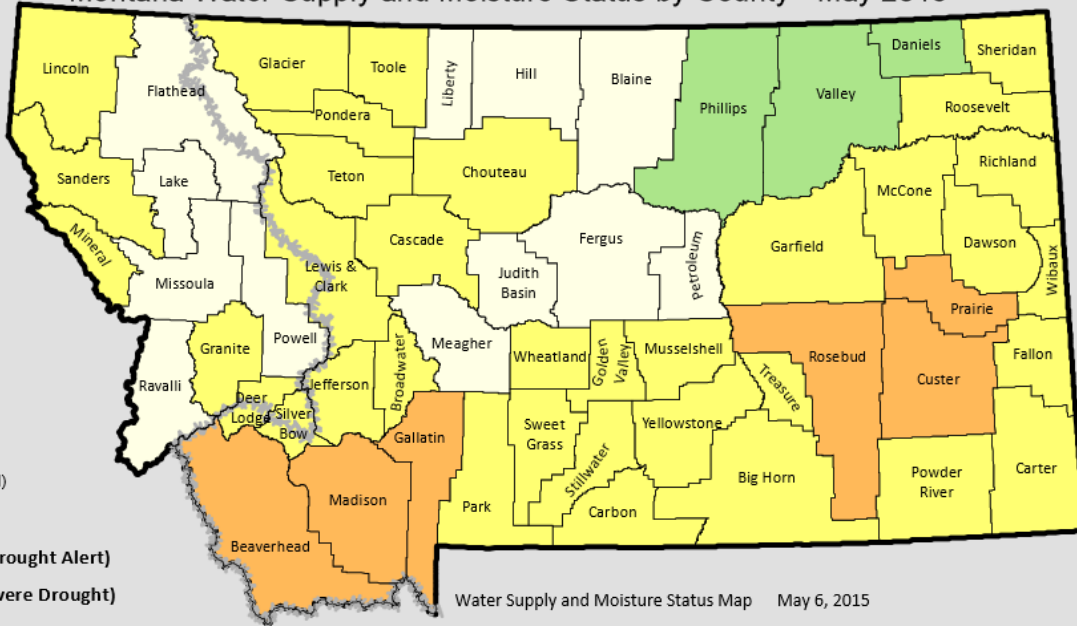
Lincoln	Teton	Garfield
Sanders	Chouteau	McCone
Mineral	Lewis and Clark	Richland
Granite	Cascade	Dawson
Deer Lodge	Judith Basin	Prairie
Glacier	Meagher	Wibaux
Toole	Jefferson	Rosebud
Liberty	Broadwater	Custer
Hill	Gallatin	Powder River
Blaine	Sheridan	Carter
Pondera	Roosevelt	

No Change

Flathead	Petroleum
Lake	Wheatland
Missoula	Golden Valley
Powell	Musselshell
Ravalli	Park
Silver Bow	Sweet Grass
Beaverhead	Stillwater
Madison	Carbon
Phillips	Yellowstone
Valley	Treasure
Daniels	Big Horn
Fergus	Fallon



Montana Water Supply and Moisture Status by County - May 2015

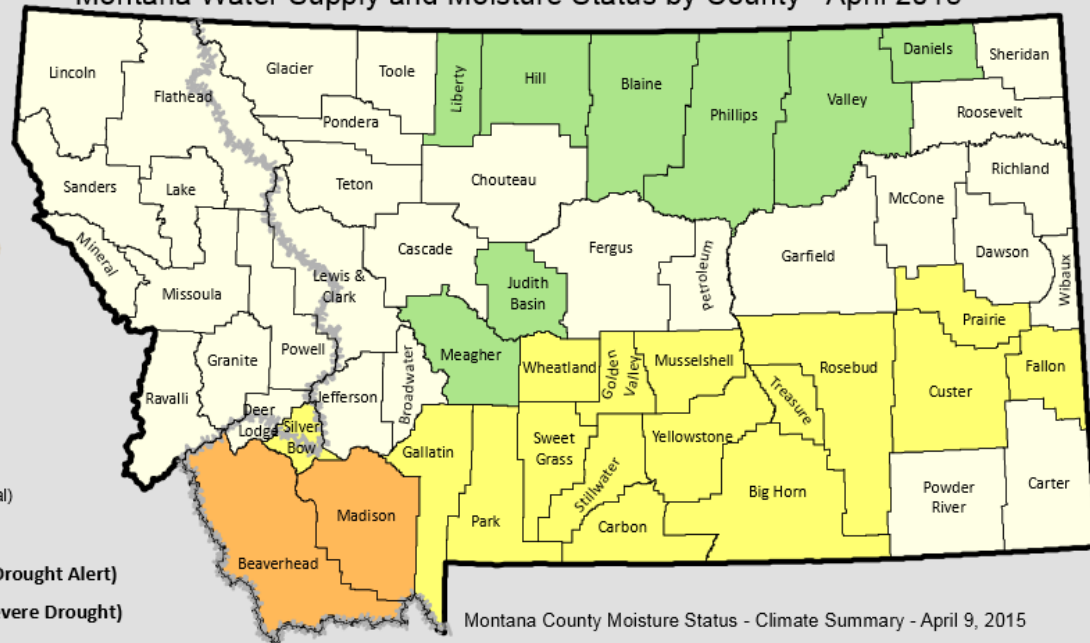


Water Supply and Moisture Status Map May 6, 2015

Montana Drought Status

May 2015 vs. April 2015

Montana Water Supply and Moisture Status by County - April 2015



Montana County Moisture Status - Climate Summary - April 9, 2015



Montana Drought & Water Supply Advisory Committee

May 21, 2015

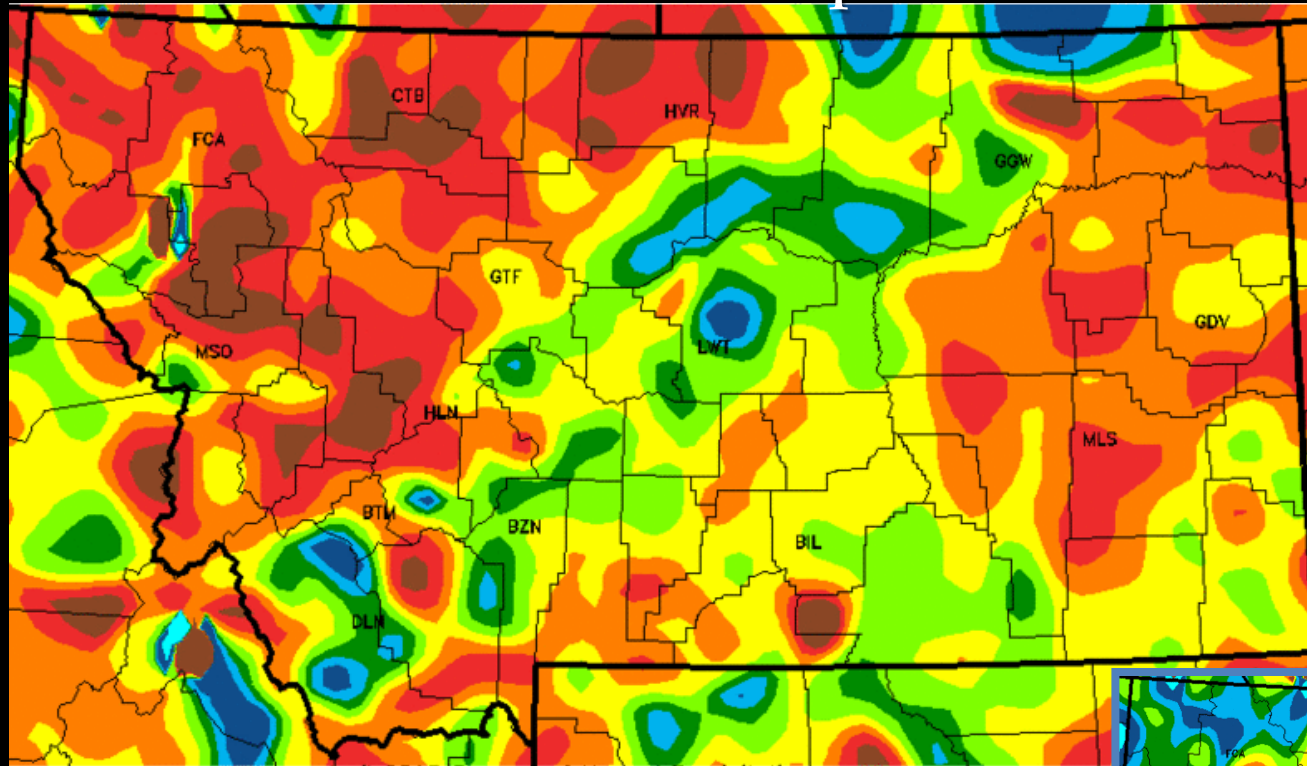
National Weather Service

Gina Loss – Service Hydrologist



Percent of Normal Precipitation

April 2015



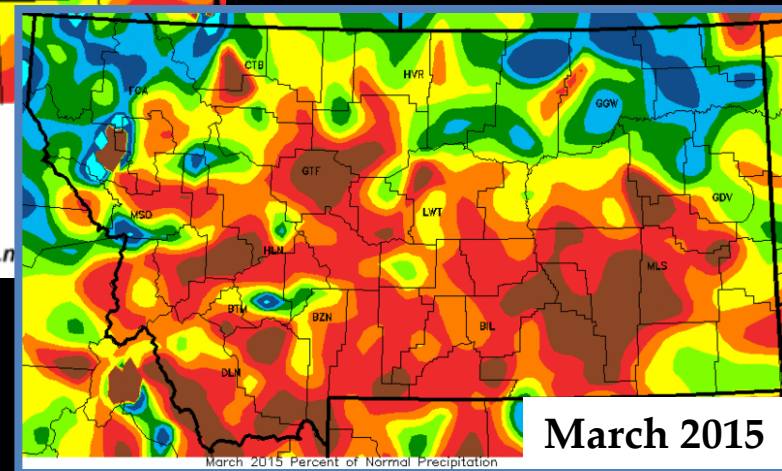
April 2015 Percent of Normal Precipitation
Period of Normal: 1981–2010

20 40 60 85 115 150 200 400

NOTE: Data used to generate this image are
PROVISIONAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

<http://www.wrh.n>

- Much of Montana below to well below average
 - West, north-central, east
- Smaller areas above to well above average
 - Southwest, central



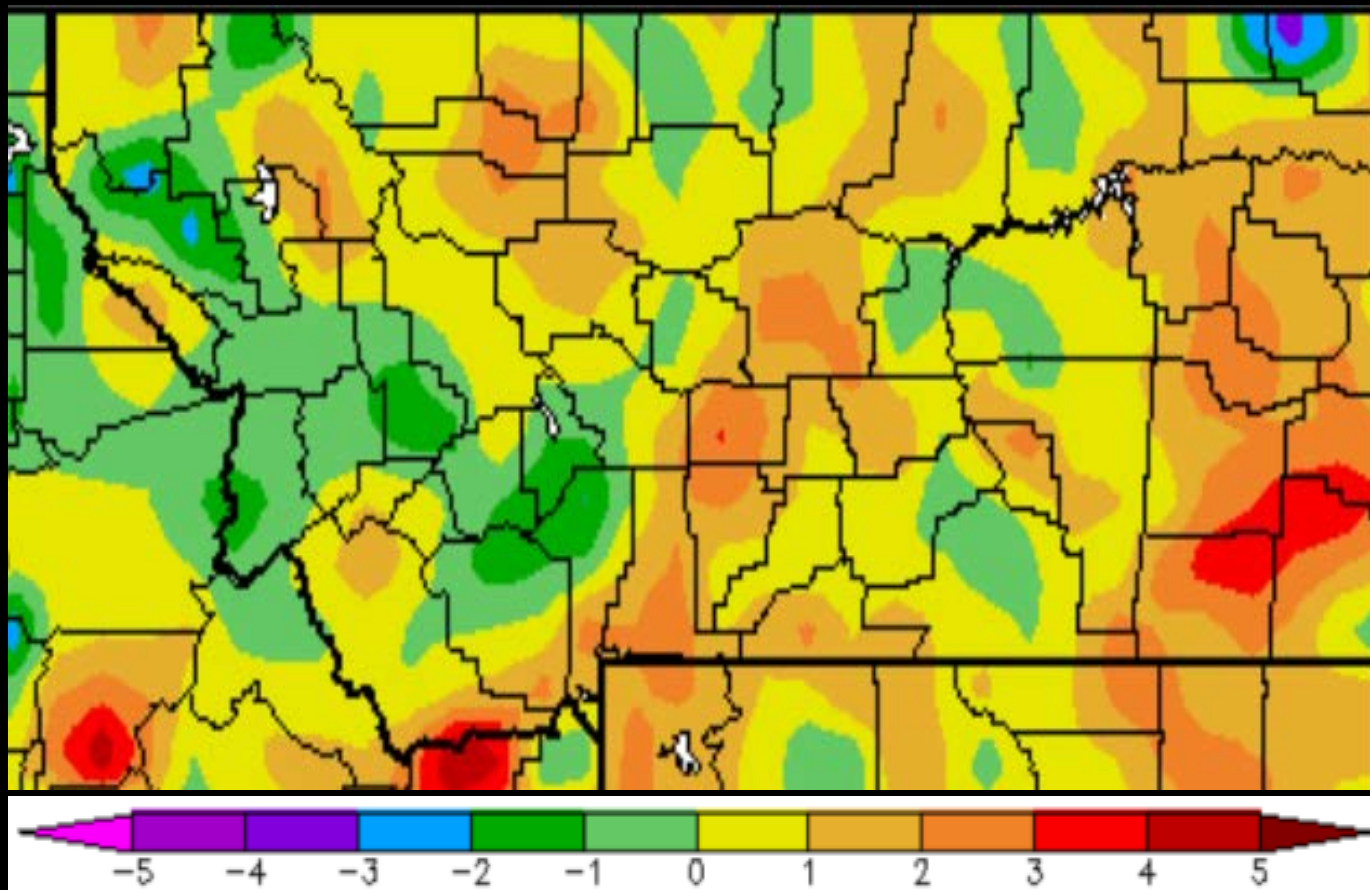
March 2015

March 2015 Percent of Normal Precipitation



Departure from Average Temperature

April 2015



- Mostly near average statewide
- Small areas southwest and southeast 3 to 4°F above average

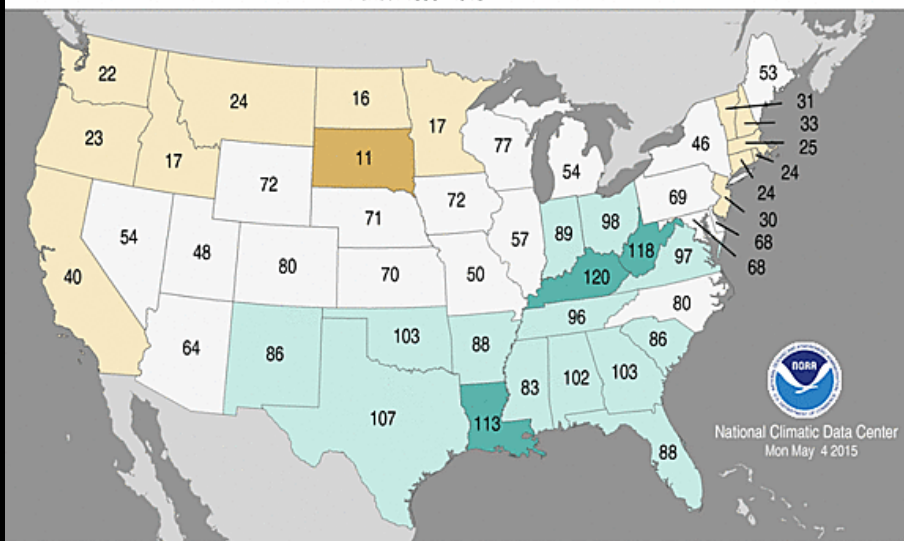
April Rankings

24th driest, 39th warmest

Statewide Precipitation Ranks

April 2015

Period: 1895–2015

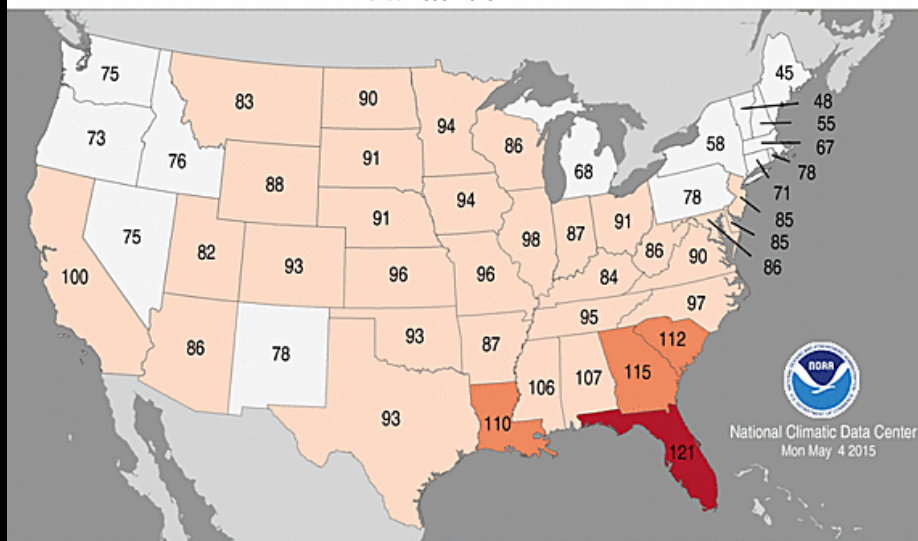


Record Driest (1)
Much Below Average
Below Average
Near Average
Above Average
Much Above Average
Record Wettest (121)

Statewide Average Temperature Ranks

April 2015

Period: 1895–2015

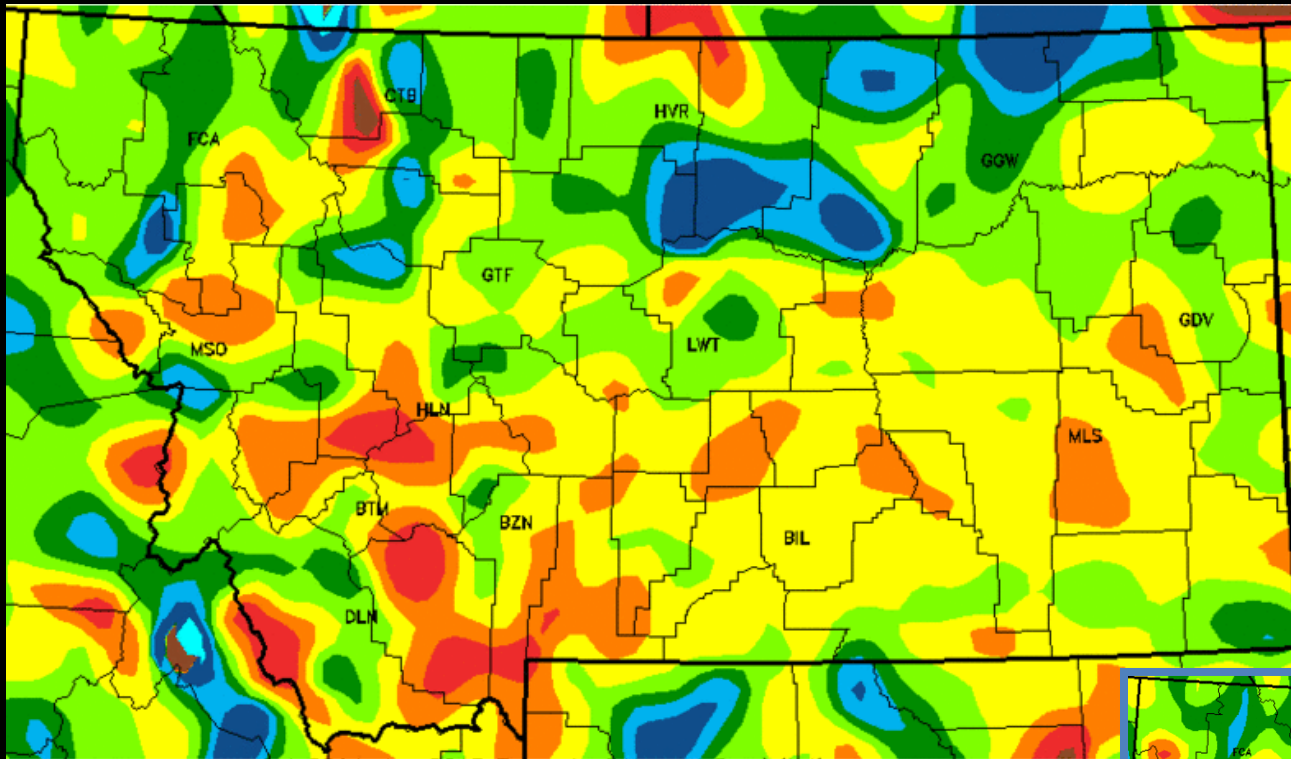


Record Coldest (1)
Much Below Average
Below Average
Near Average
Above Average
Much Above Average
Record Warmest (121)



Percent of Normal Precipitation Water Year 2015

- October - April
- Northern half mostly near to above average
- Southern half mostly below to well below average

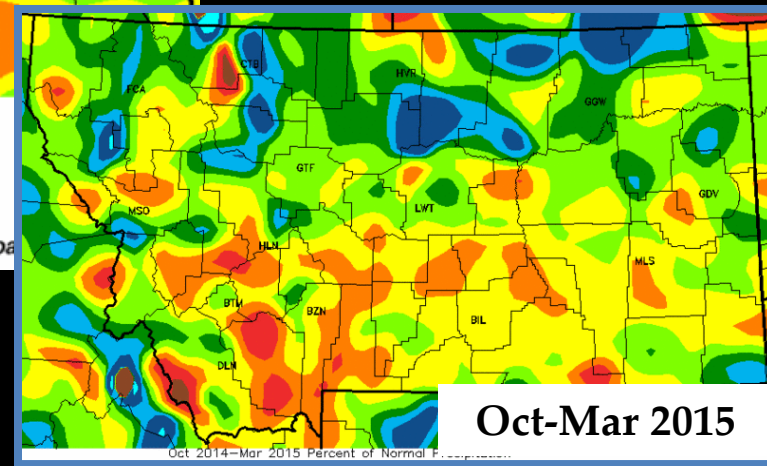


Oct 2014–Apr 2015 Percent of Normal Precipitation
Period of Normal: 1981–2010

20 40 60 85 115 150 200 400

NOTE: Data used to generate this image are
PROVISIONAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov>



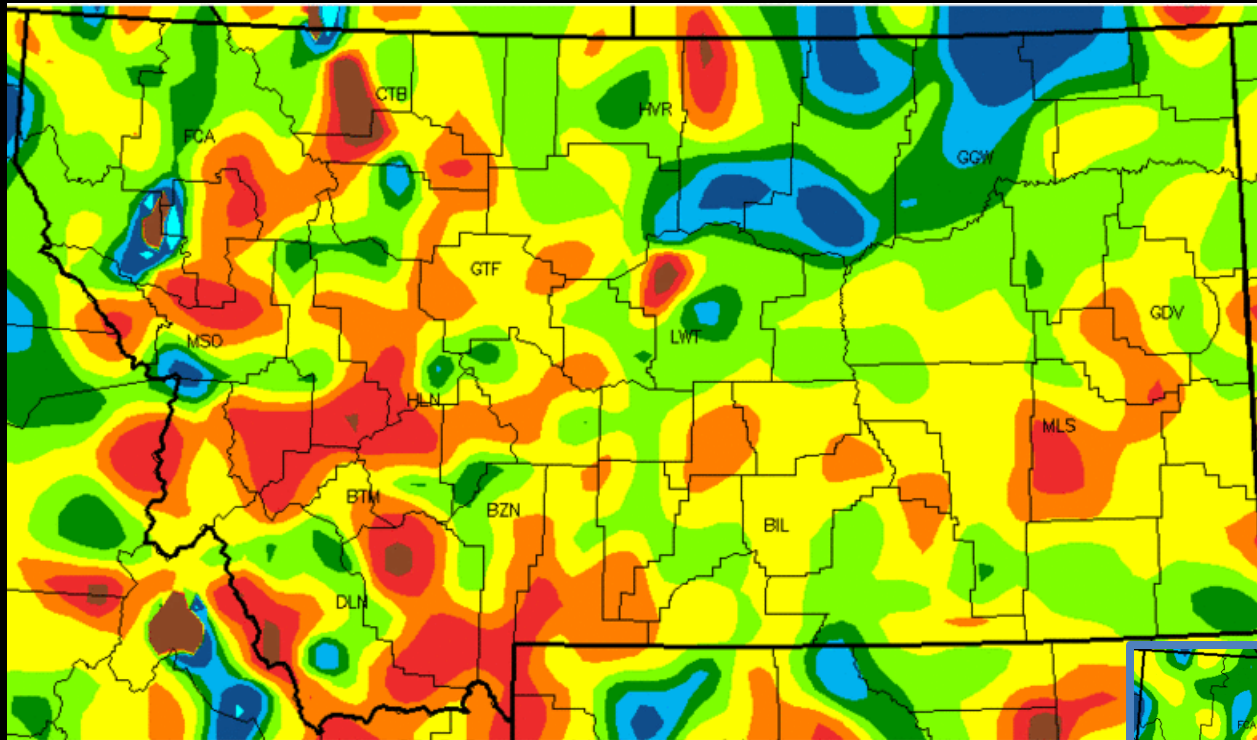
Oct-Mar 2015

Oct 2014–Mar 2015 Percent of Normal Precipitation



Percent of Normal Precipitation Calendar Year

- January - April
- West and southwest has large areas well below average
- South-central and southeast below to well below average
- North-central and northeast above to well above average

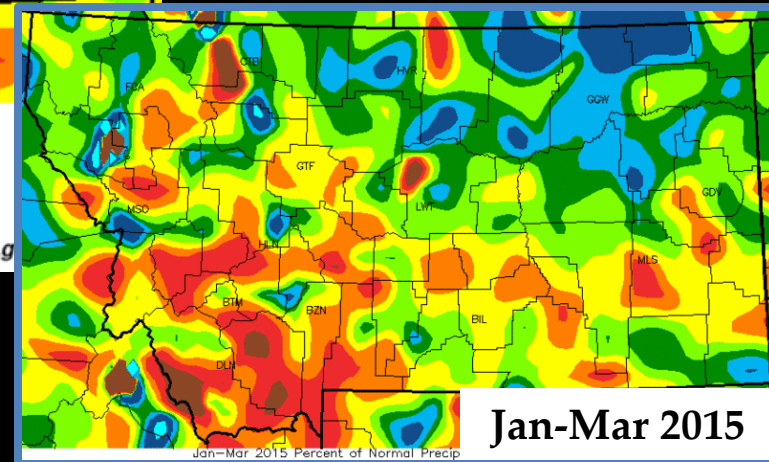


Jan-Apr 2015 Percent of Normal Precipitation
Period of Normal: 1981-2010

20 40 60 85 115 150 200 400

NOTE: Data used to generate this image are
PROVISIONAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov>

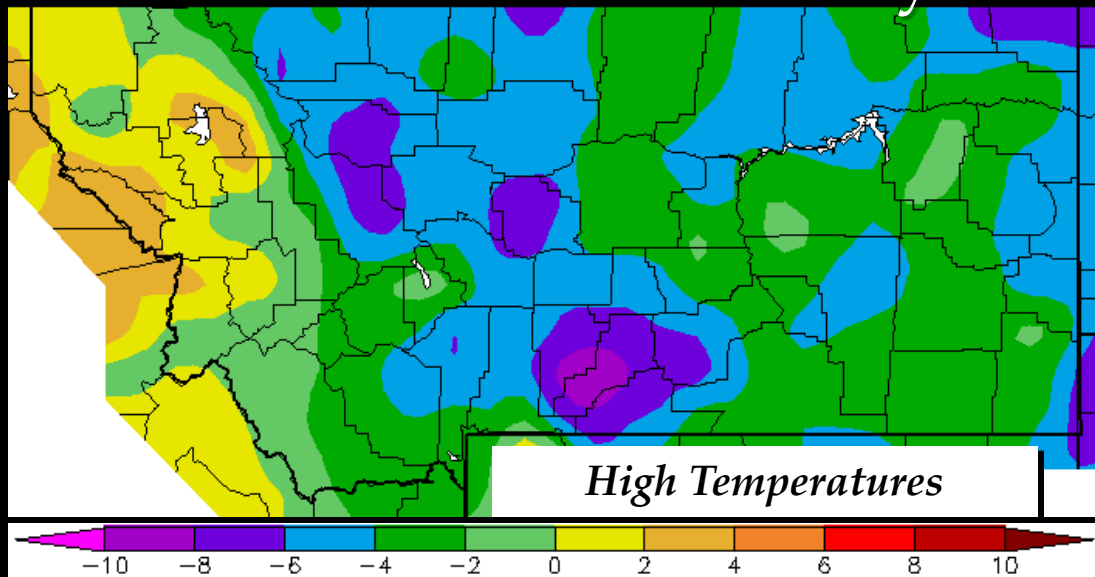


Jan-Mar 2015

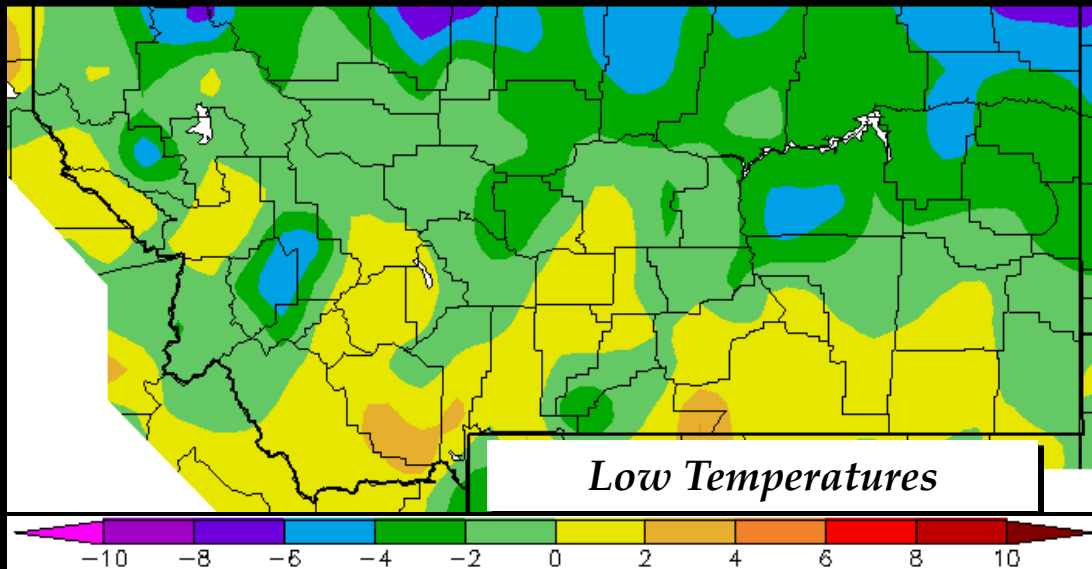


Temperature Anomalies

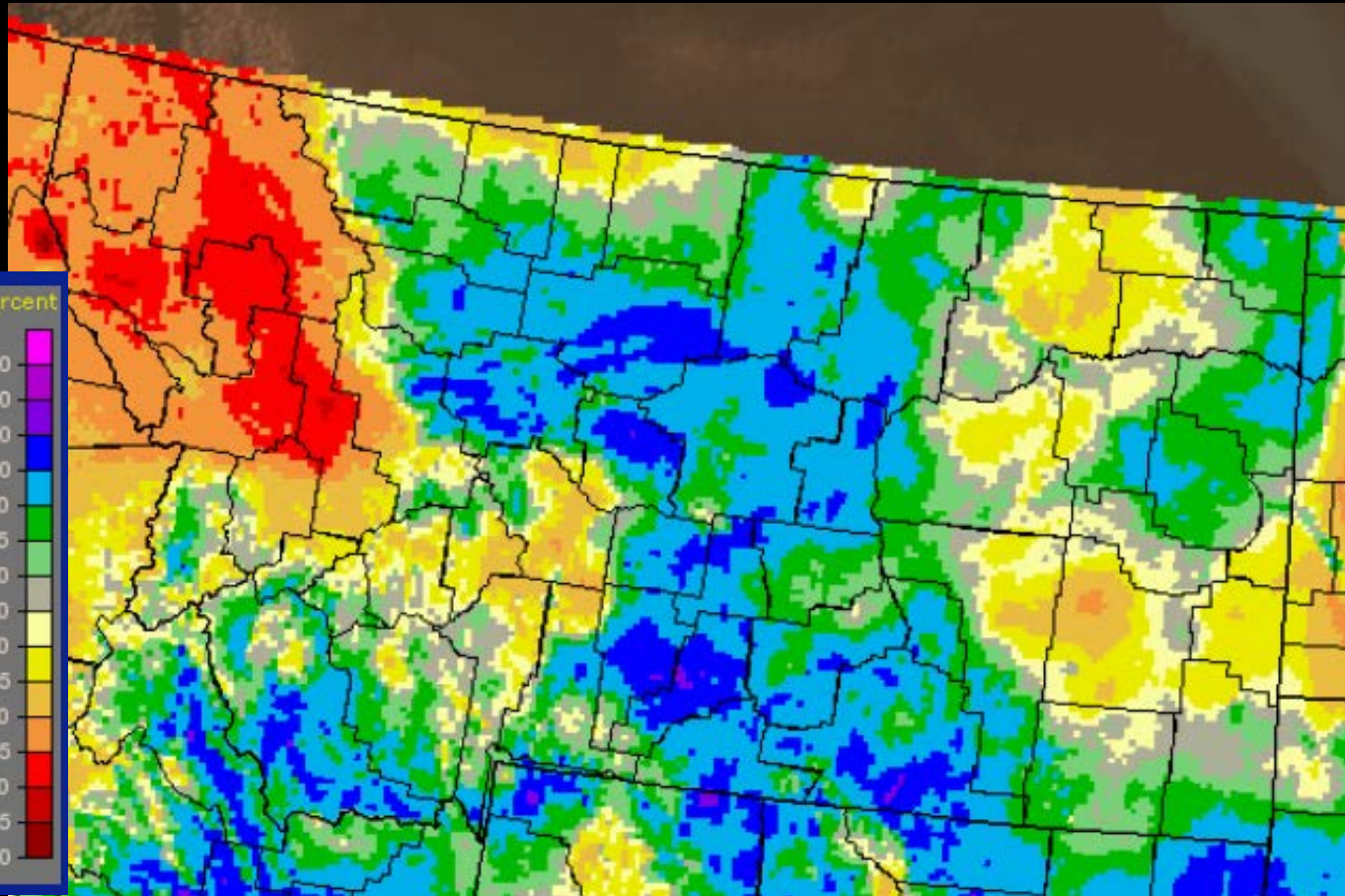
May 1 - 19



- Highs
 - Near average west
 - Central and east 4-8 °F below average
- Lows
 - Mostly near average
 - Hi-line 4-6 °F below average



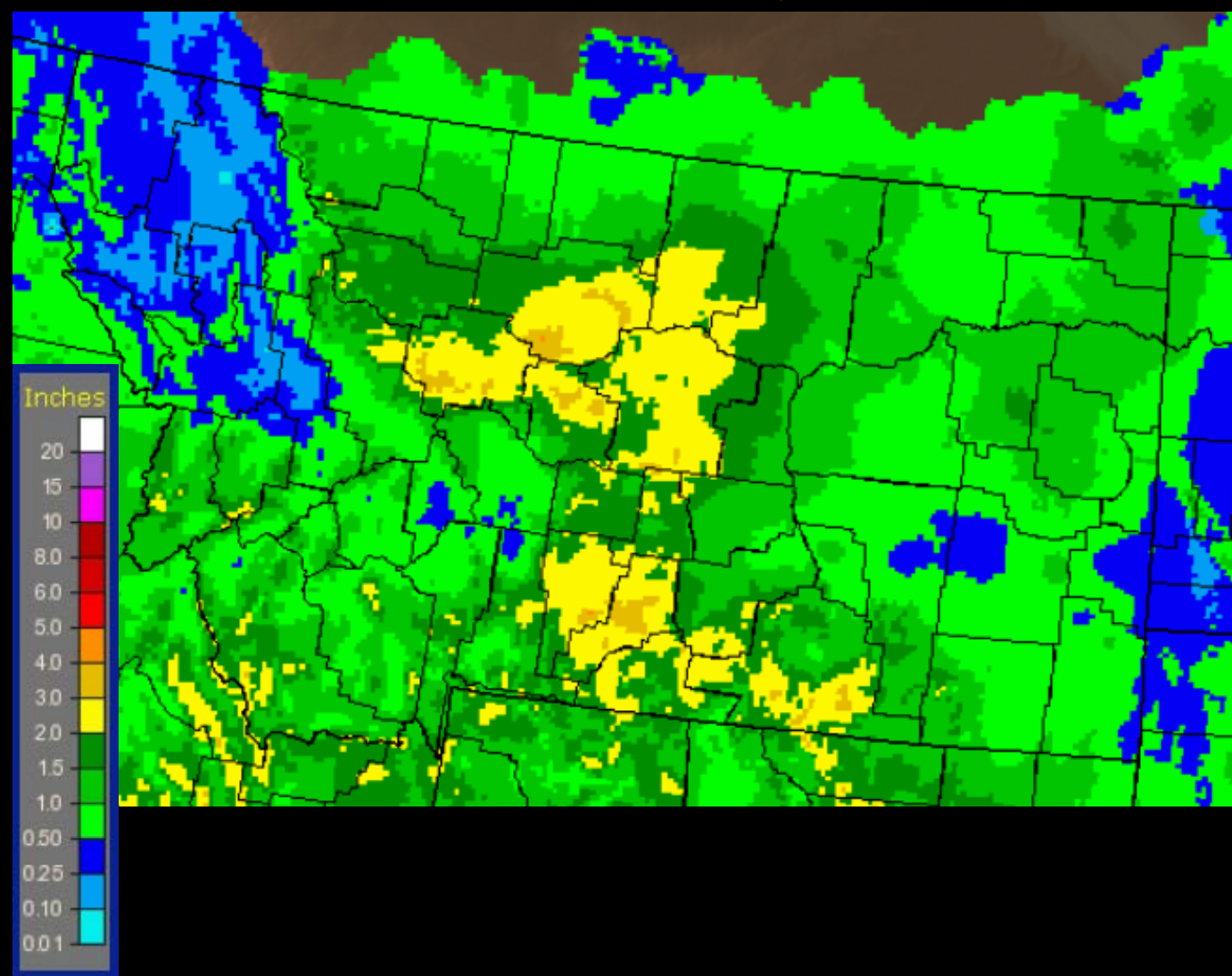
Percent of Average Precipitation May 1 - 19



- Well below average west
- Above average southwest, south-central, central, north-central, and northeast
- Below average southeast

Total Precipitation

May 13 - 19



- Mostly result of event May 15-17
- Most of Montana east of the Divide got at least one inch
- Large areas of 2-3 inches in favored upslope area
- Isolated areas of 3-4 inches
- Few reports of more than 4 inches.

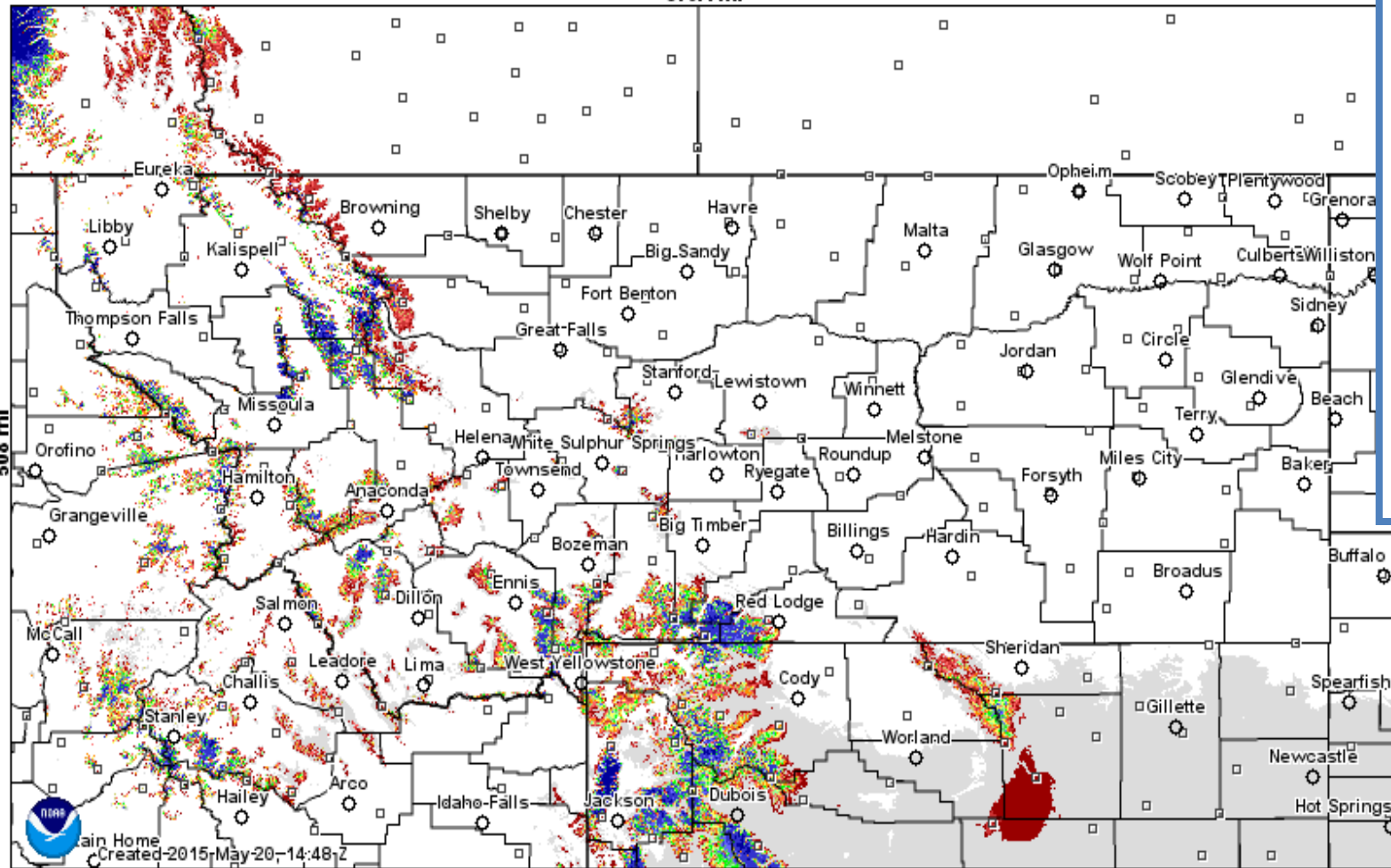


NOHRSC Modeled Snow Water Equivalent

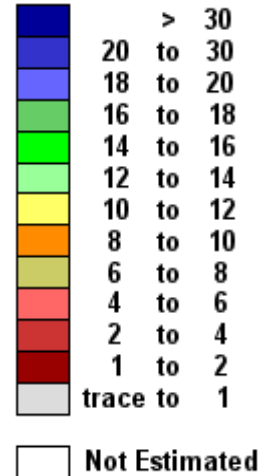
May 20, 2014

Modeled Snow Water Equivalent forecasted for 2015 May 20, 16:00 UTC

576.4 mi



Inches of water equivalent



660.9 mi

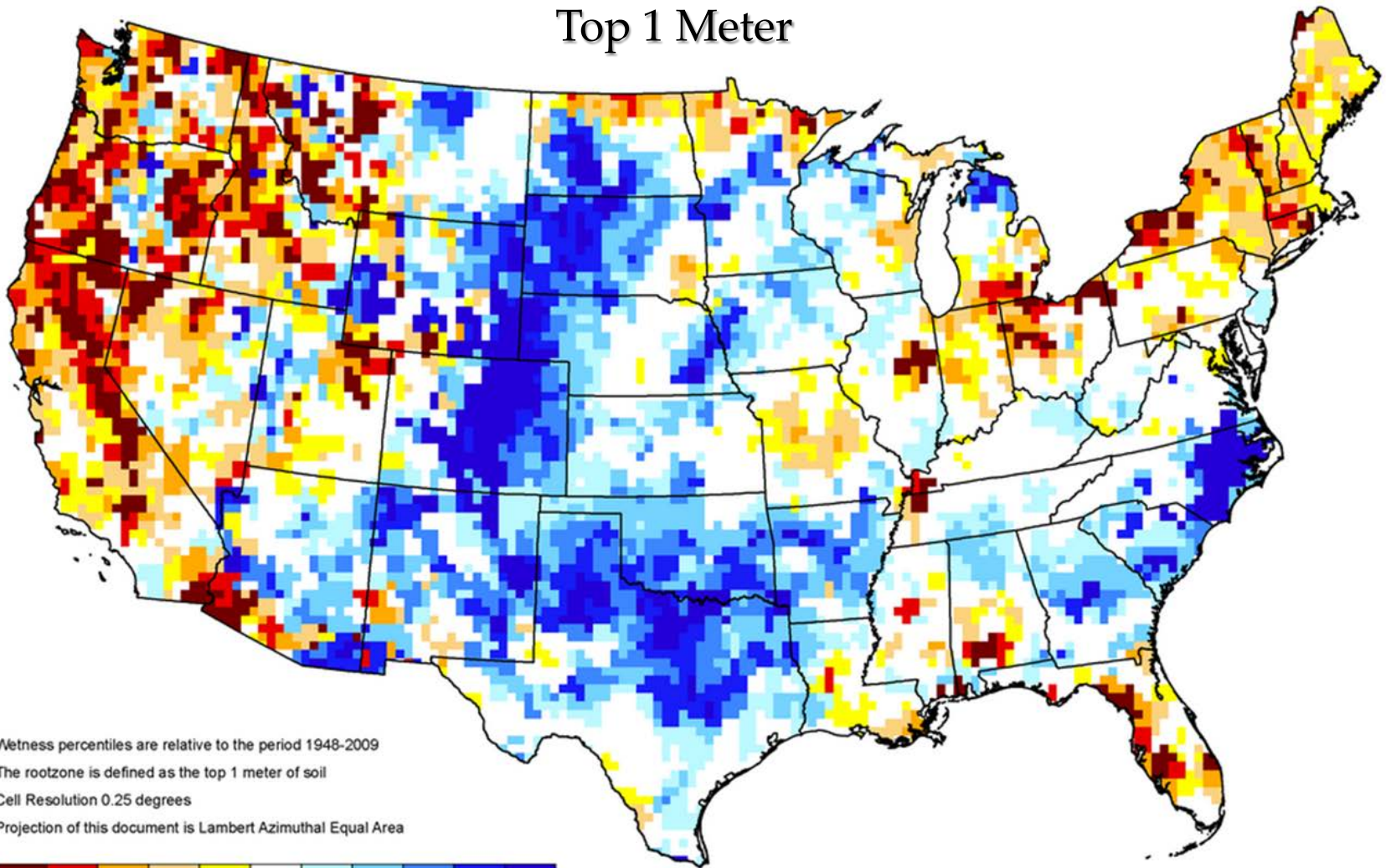




GRACE-Based Root Zone Soil Moisture Drought Indicator

May 11, 2015

Top 1 Meter

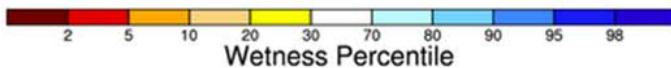


Wetness percentiles are relative to the period 1948-2009

The rootzone is defined as the top 1 meter of soil

Cell Resolution 0.25 degrees

Projection of this document is Lambert Azimuthal Equal Area



<http://drought.unl.edu/MonitoringTools/NASAGRACEDataAssimilation.aspx>

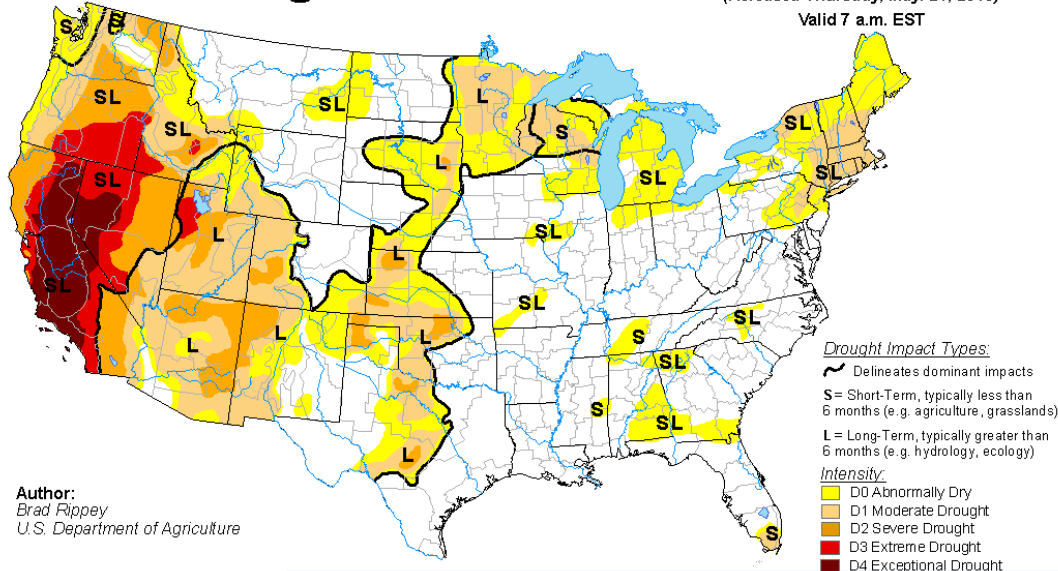


National Drought Monitor

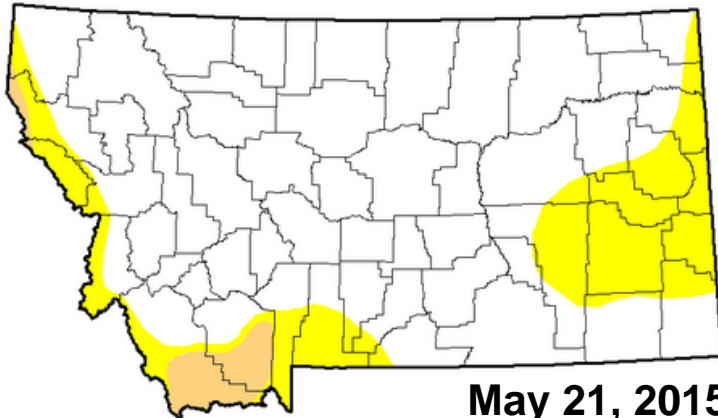
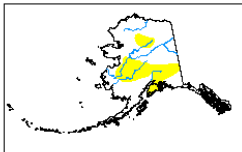
Issued May 21

U.S. Drought Monitor

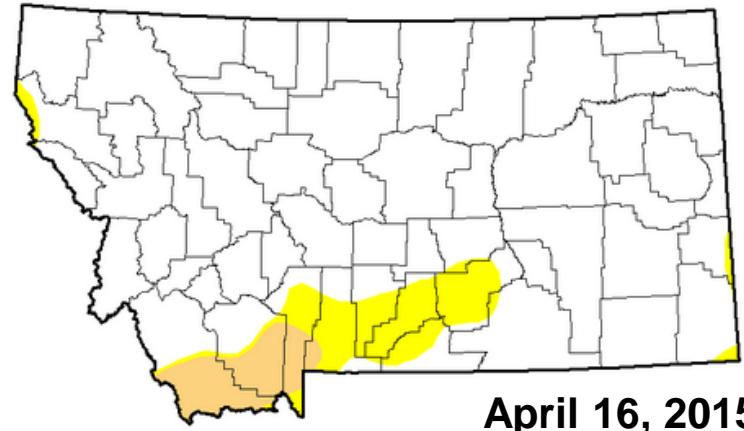
May 19, 2015
(Released Thursday, May. 21, 2015)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Author:
Brad Rippey
U.S. Department of Agriculture



May 21, 2015



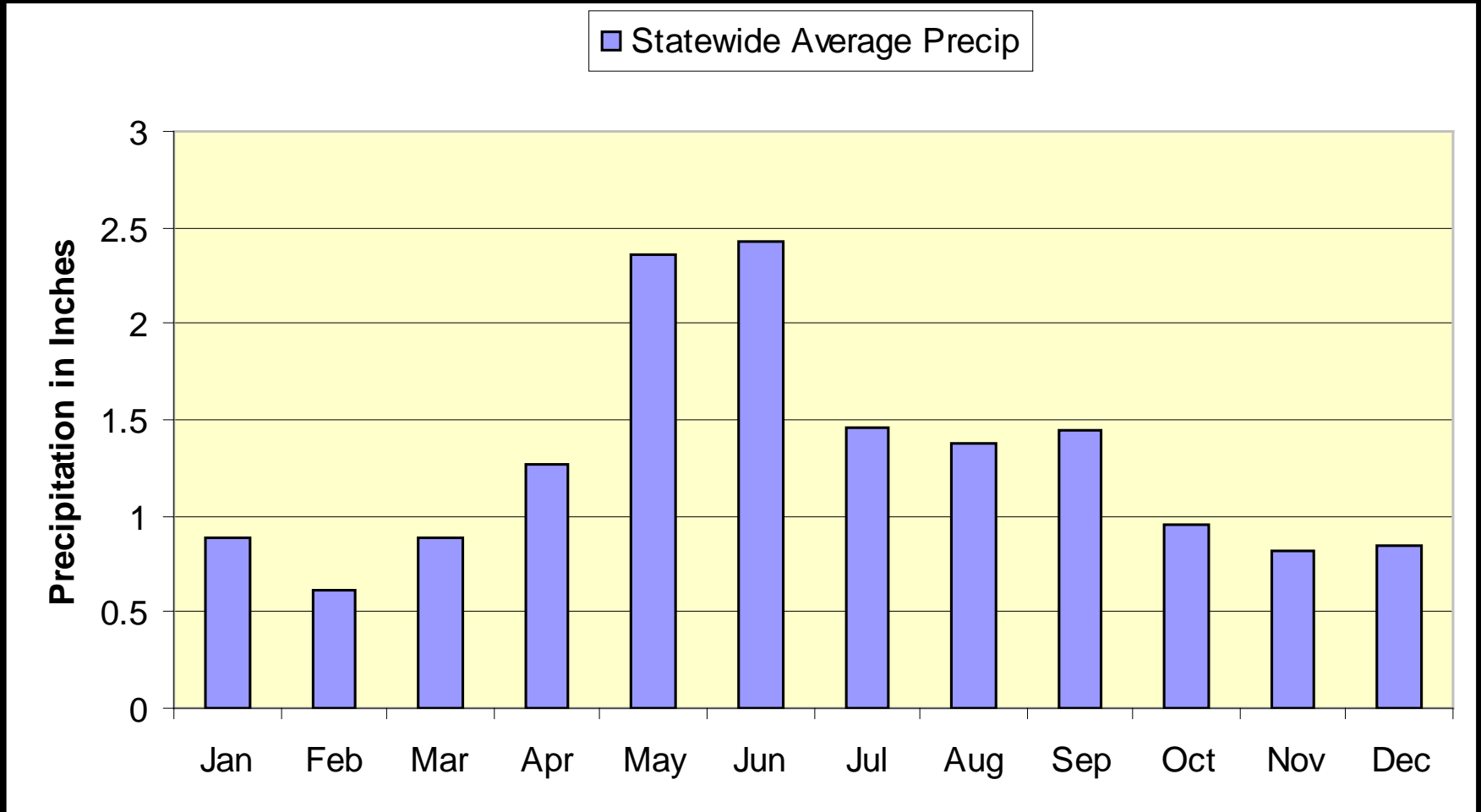
April 16, 2015

- D0 'Abnormally Dry' east-central Montana and along MT/ID border
- D0 'Abnormally Dry' to D1 'Moderate Drought' over southwest Montana



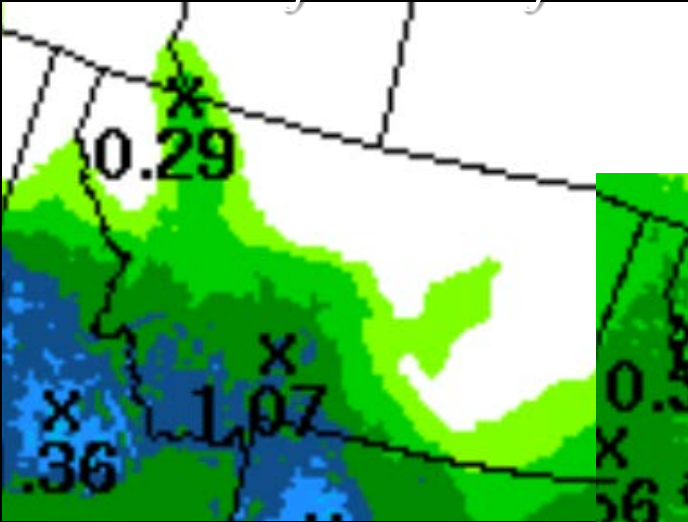
Statewide Average Precipitation

May first of two wettest months of year

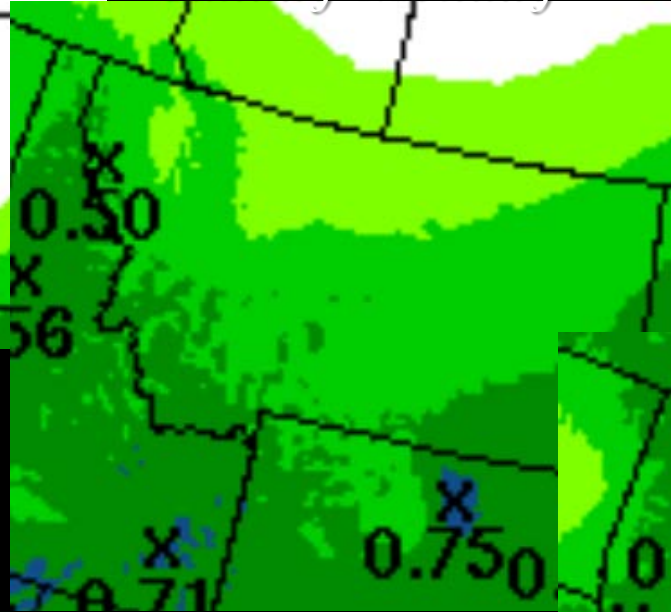


7-Day Precipitation Forecast

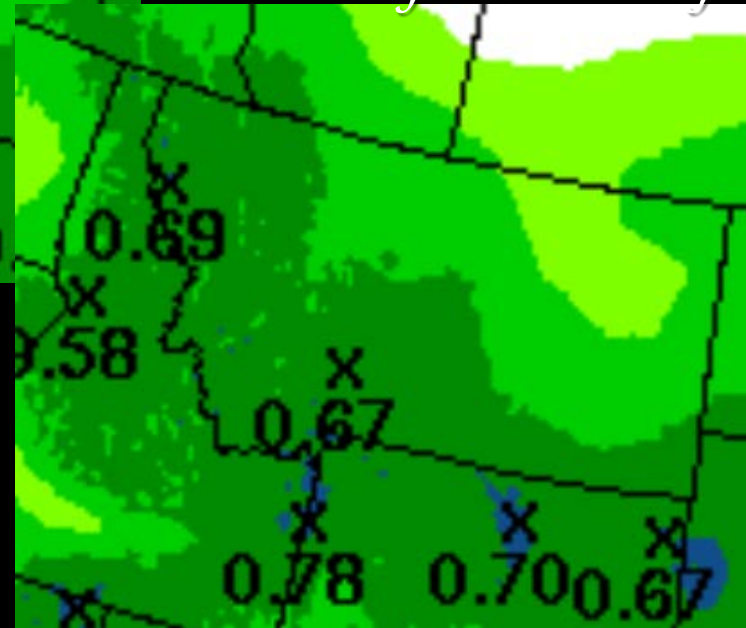
Thursday-Saturday



Sunday-Monday



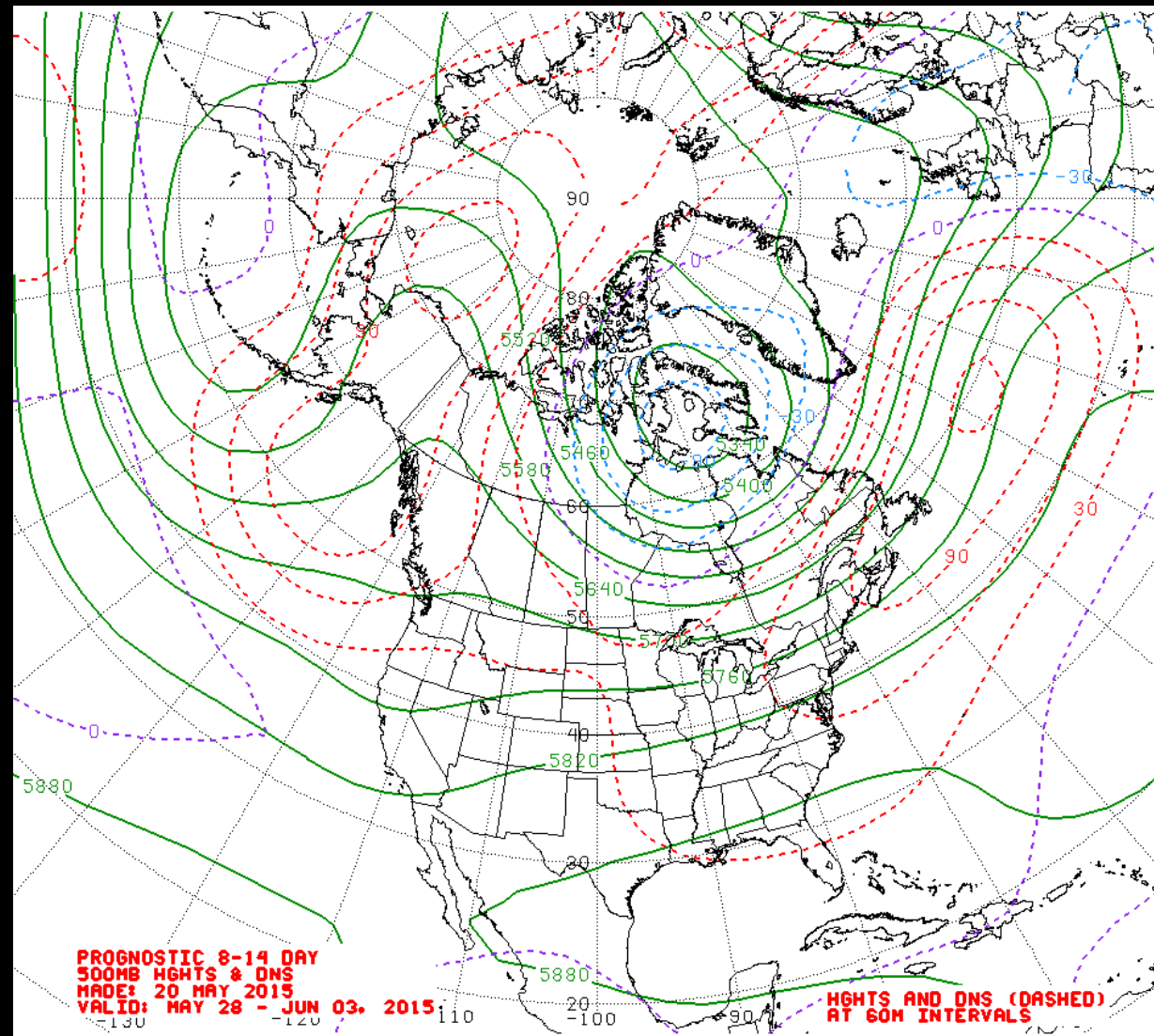
Tuesday-Wednesday



8 to 14 Day Outlook

500mb Heights and Anomalies

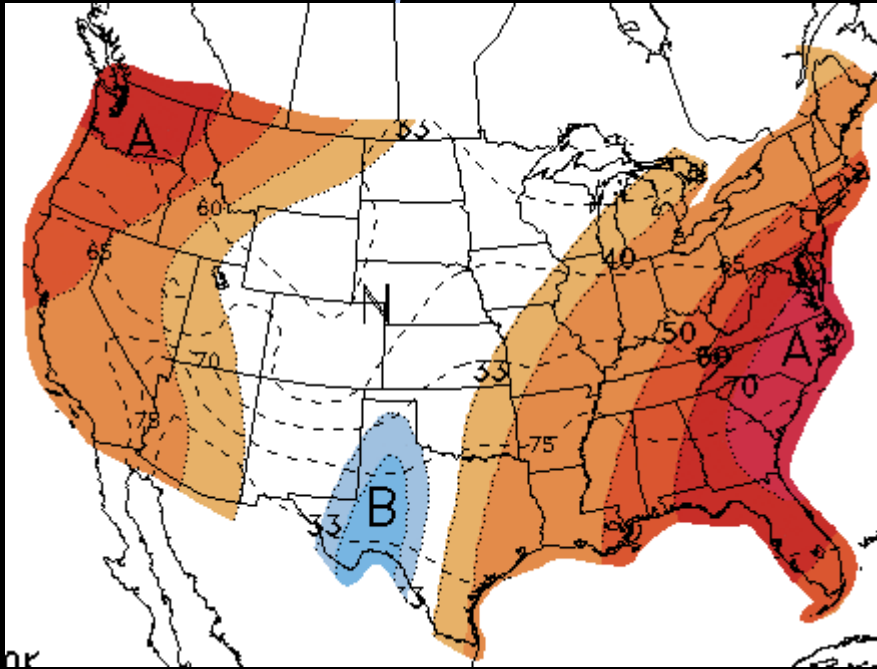
- May 28 – June 3
- Split in flow coming into Pacific Northwest and Montana



8 to 14 Day Outlook

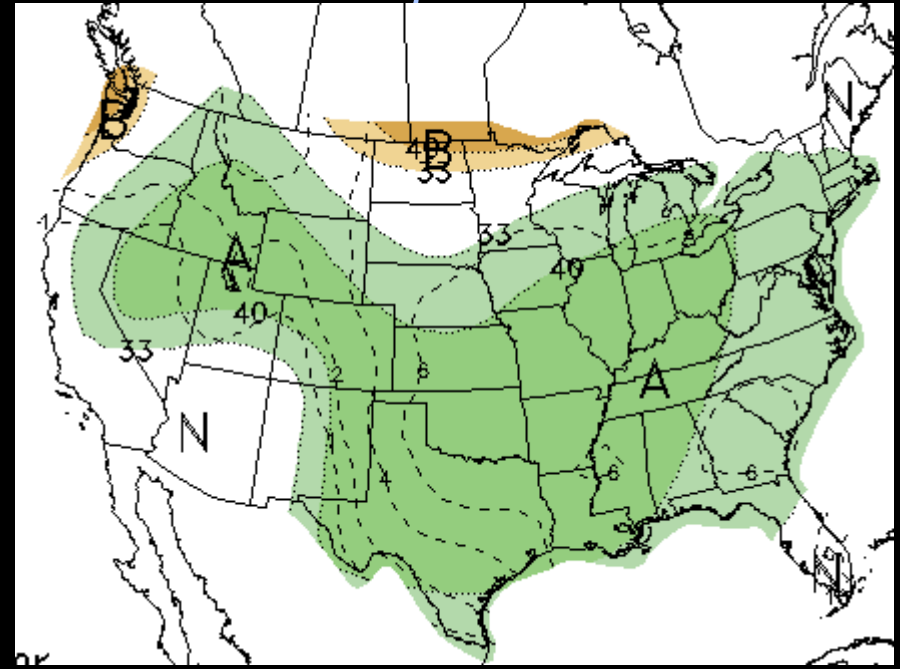
May 28 – June 3

Temperature



- 33% to 60% chance temperatures will average above normal west across all but southeast Montana

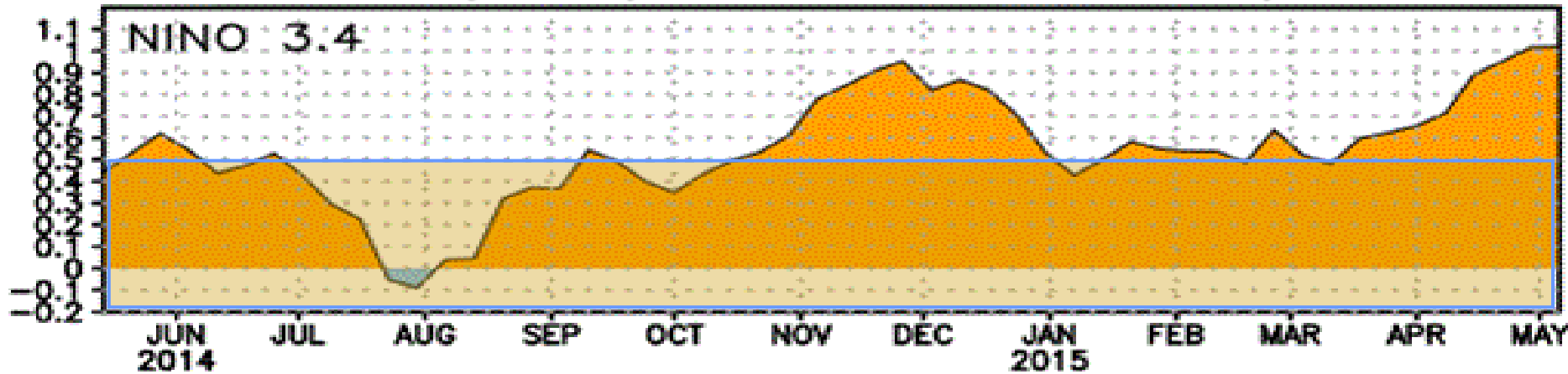
Precipitation



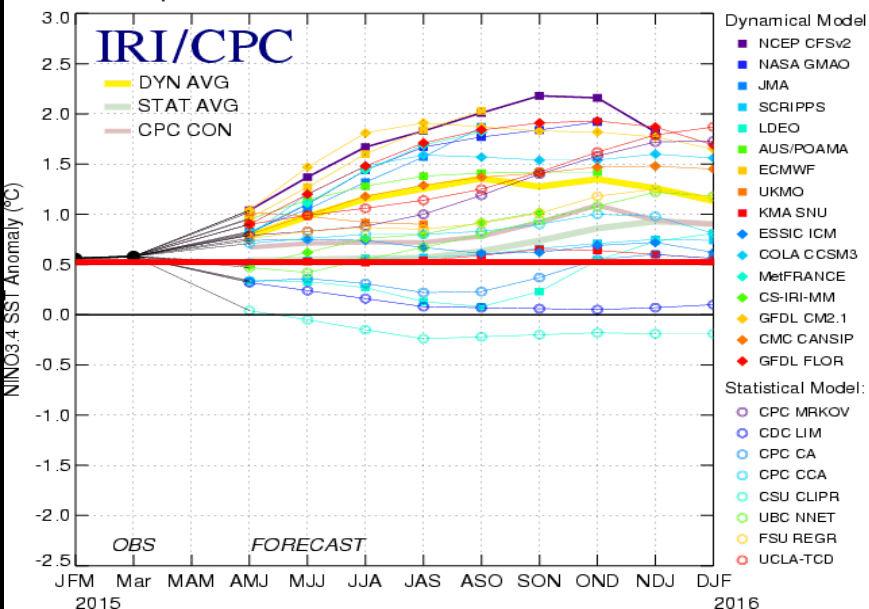
- 33 to 50% chance precipitation will average above normal west, central and south
- 33 to 40% chance precipitation will average below normal far northeast

El Niño / La Niña

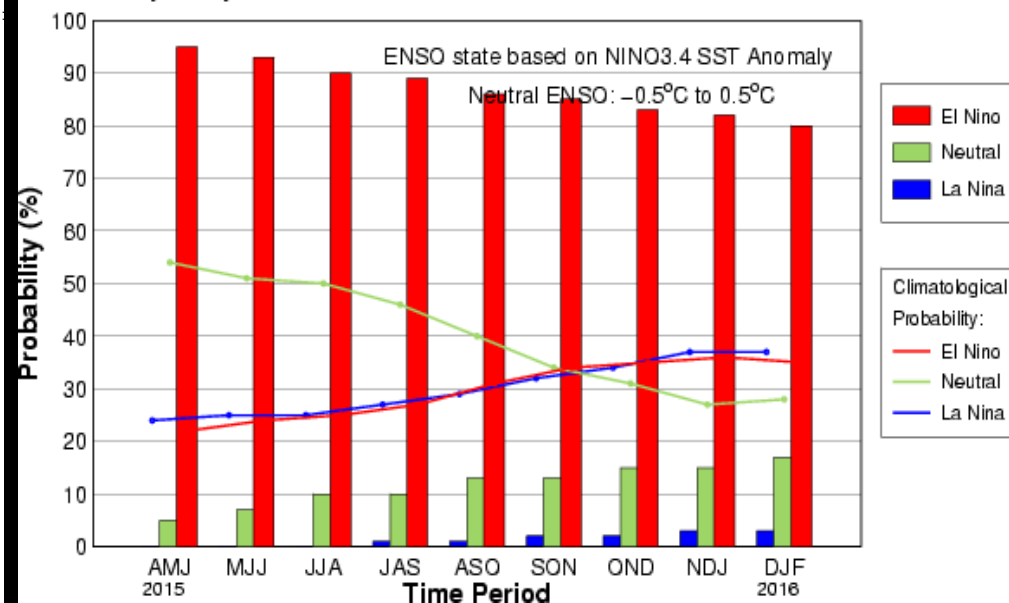
El Niño Advisory - Likely El Niño will continue into early winter



Mid-Apr 2015 Plume of Model ENSO Predictions



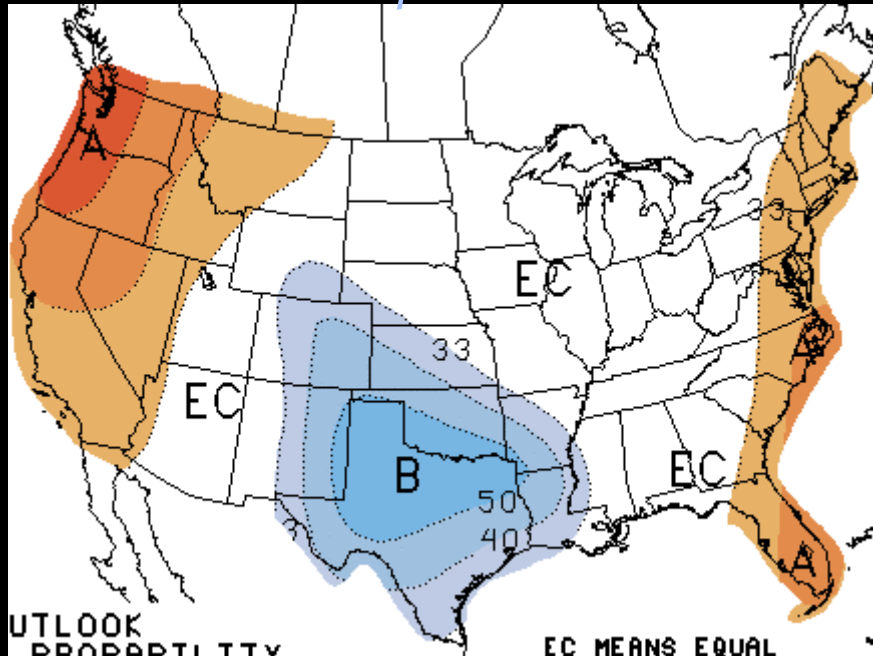
Early-May CPC/IRI Consensus Probabilistic ENSO Forecast



June Outlook

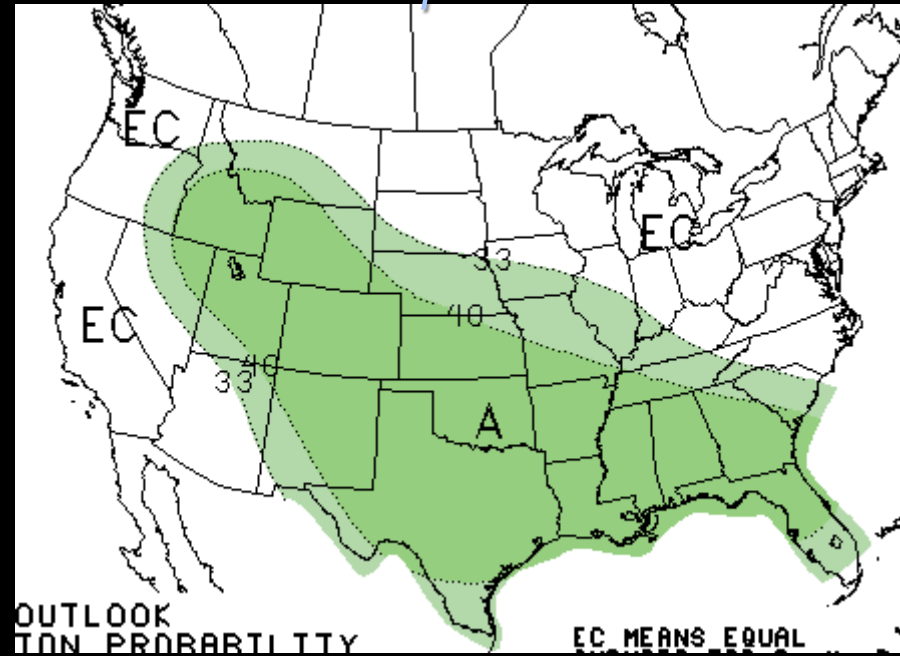
Updated May 21

Temperature



- 33% to 50% chance temperatures will average above normal over west and central Montana
- Equal chances for above, below or near normal east

Precipitation

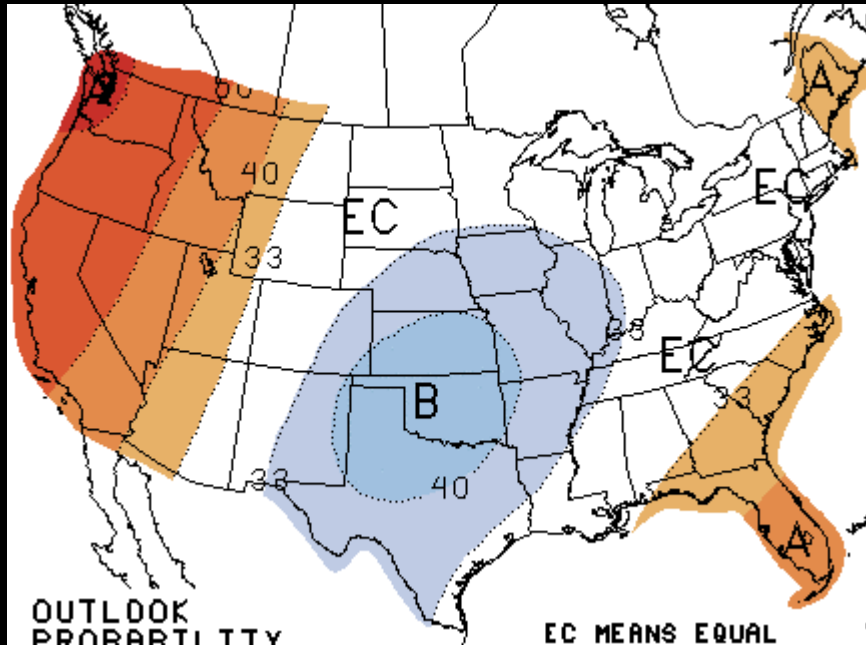


- 33% to 50% chance precipitation will be above average over southern half of Montana
- Equal chances for above, below or near normal north and portions of east

July – September Outlook

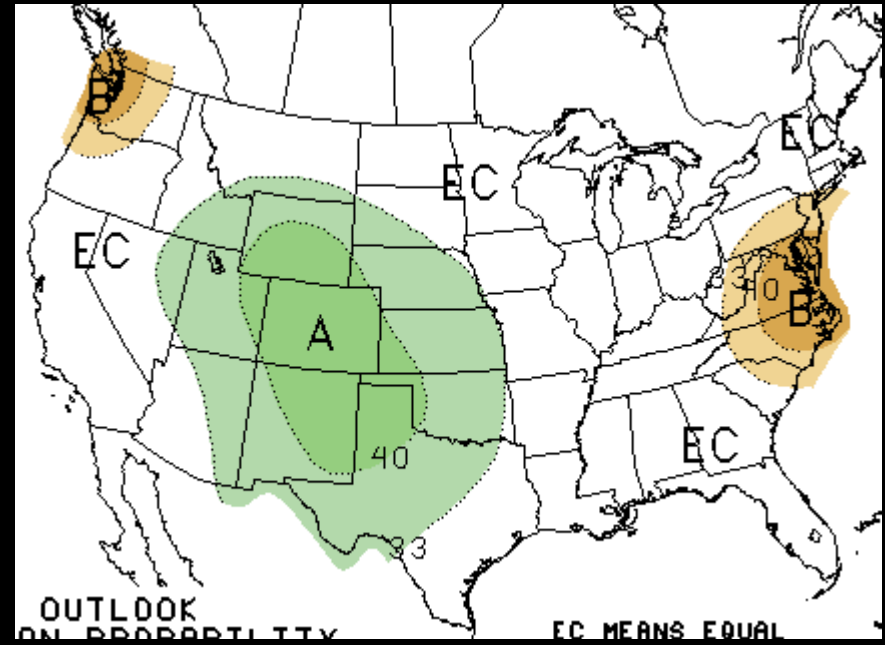
Updated May 21

Temperature



- 33% to 50% chance temperatures will be above average over west and central Montana
- Equal chances for above, below, or near average extreme east

Precipitation



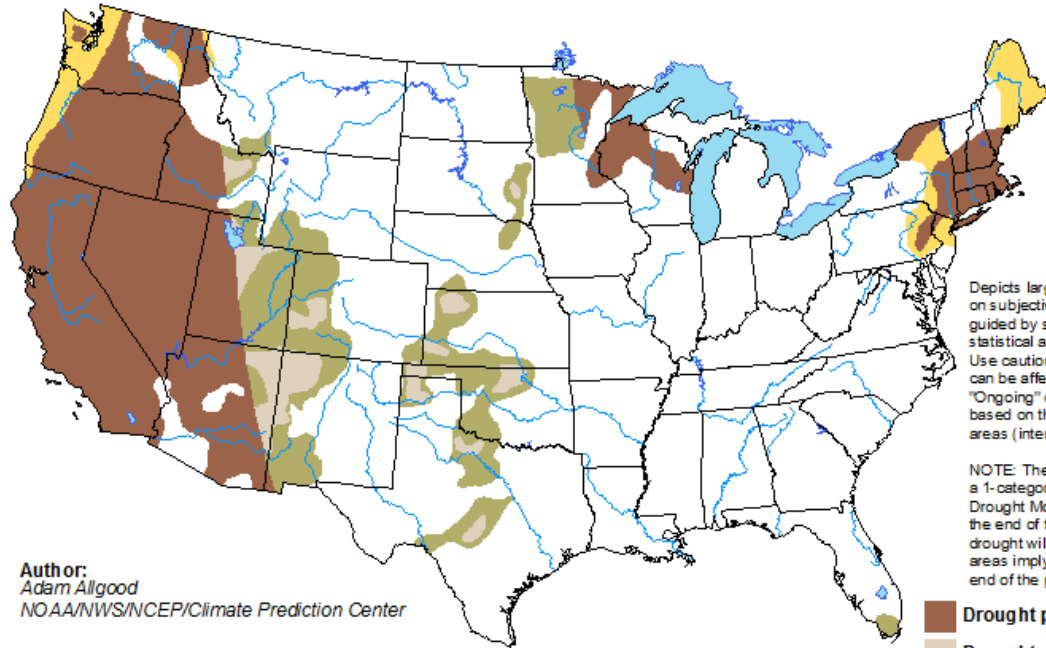
- 33% to 40% chance precipitation will be above average across extreme southern Montana
- Equal chances for above, below, or near average central and north

Drought Outlook through August

Issued May 21

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for May 21 - August 31, 2015
Released May 21, 2015



Author:
Adam Allgood
NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

Depicts large-scale trends based on subjectively derived probabilities guided by short- and long-range statistical and dynamical forecasts. Use caution for applications that can be affected by short lived events. "Ongoing" drought areas are based on the U.S. Drought Monitor areas (intensities of D1 to D4).

NOTE: The tan areas imply at least a 1-category improvement in the Drought Monitor intensity levels by the end of the period, although drought will remain. The green areas imply drought removal by the end of the period (D0 or none).

- Drought persists/intensifies
- Drought remains but improves
- Drought removal likely
- Drought development likely



<http://go.usa.gov/hHTe>

- Drought area in southwest Montana expected to improve



In Summary...

- Conditions were getting notably dry across southern Montana prompting response in National Drought Monitor and Montana Drought and Water Supply Conditions
- Storm mid-May brought widespread rain/snow to much of Montana East of the Divide
 - Stream and river rises noted but no flooding reported
- Currently in period with best chances for precipitation climatologically
 - Current precipitation outlook indicates amounts of an inch or more possible over southern Montana
 - Lesser amounts over northern half of state.
- El Niño has strengthened and strong chances it will persist at least into early winter
- Drought Outlook currently shows no strong chances for areas of Montana sliding into worsening drought conditions



weather.gov

weather.gov/billings

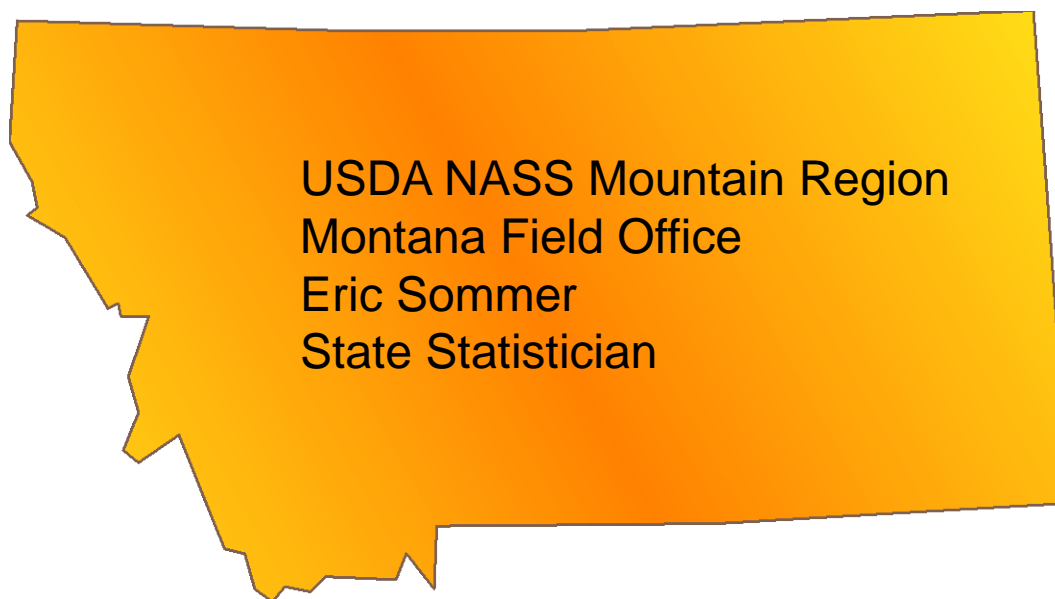
weather.gov/glasgow

weather.gov/missoula

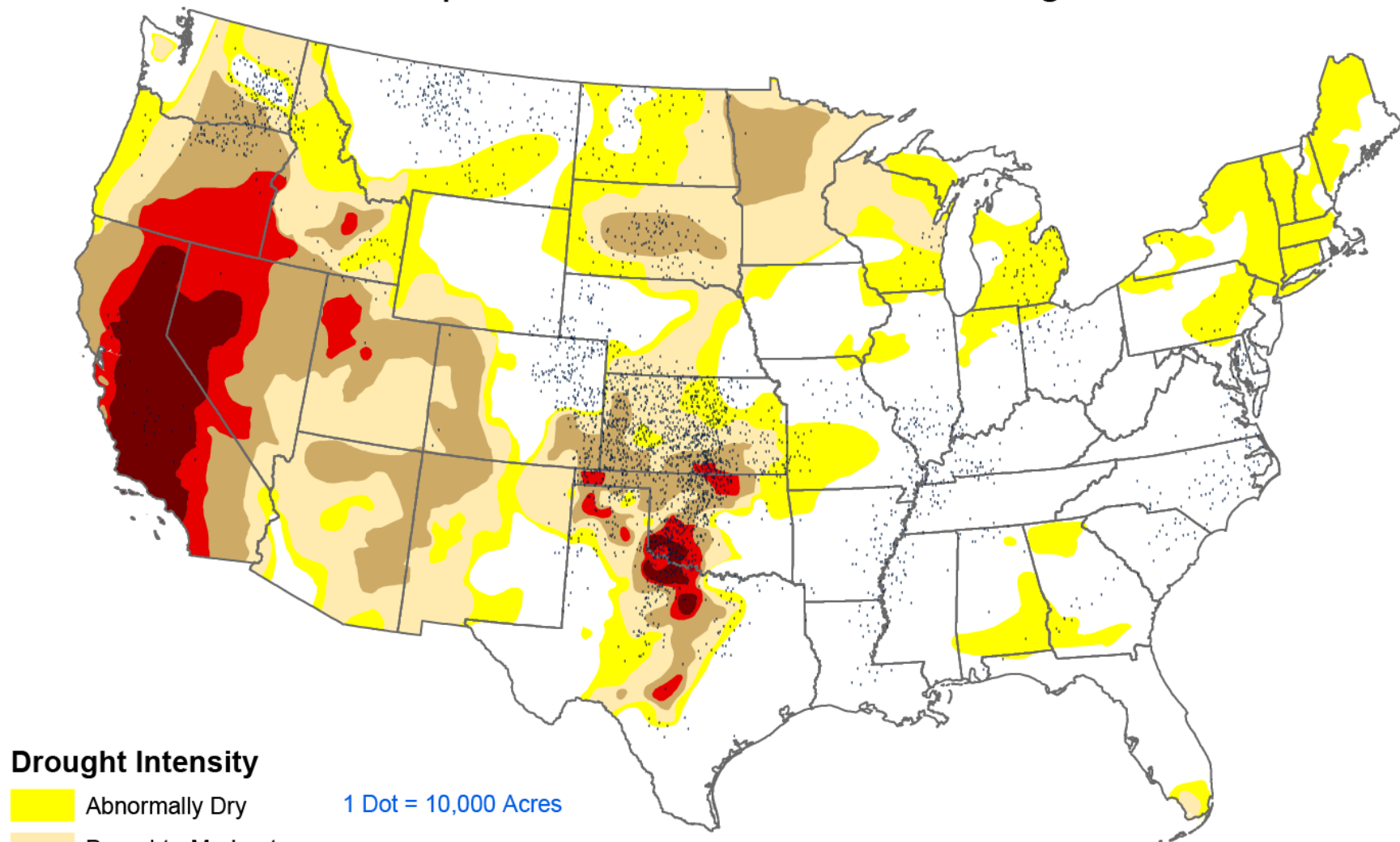
weather.gov/greatfalls



Governor's Drought & Water Supply Advisory Committee



U.S. Drought Intensity For May 5, 2015 Compared With Winter Wheat Acreage



Drought Intensity

- Abnormally Dry
- Drought - Moderate
- Drought - Severe
- Drought - Extreme
- Drought - Exceptional

1 Dot = 10,000 Acres

Sources:

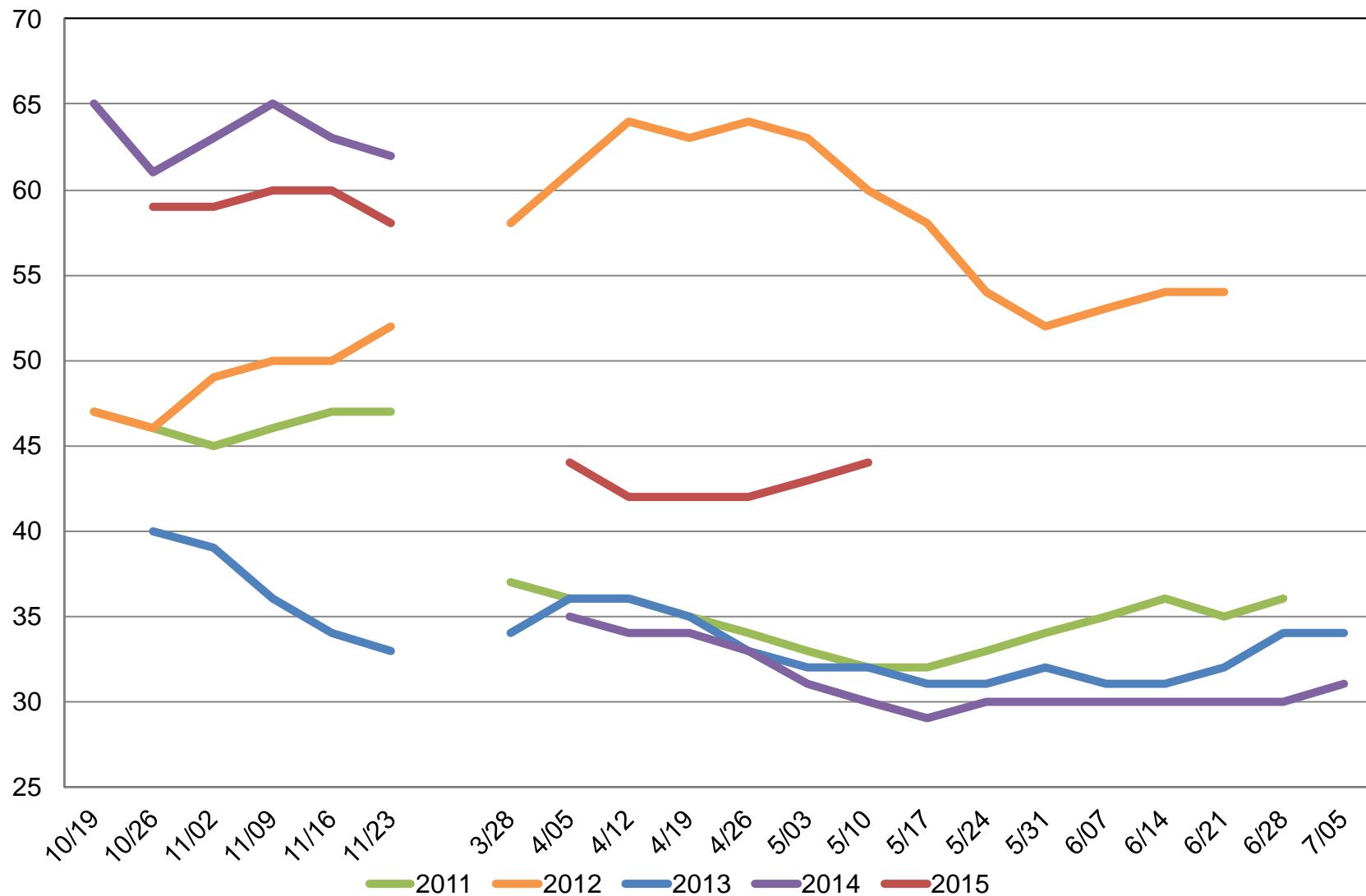
2012 Census of Agriculture, USDA-NASS
 U.S. Drought Monitor (<http://drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>)
 National Drought Mitigation Center
 U.S. Department of Agriculture
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 5-12-15

USDA-NASS

U.S. Winter Wheat Condition

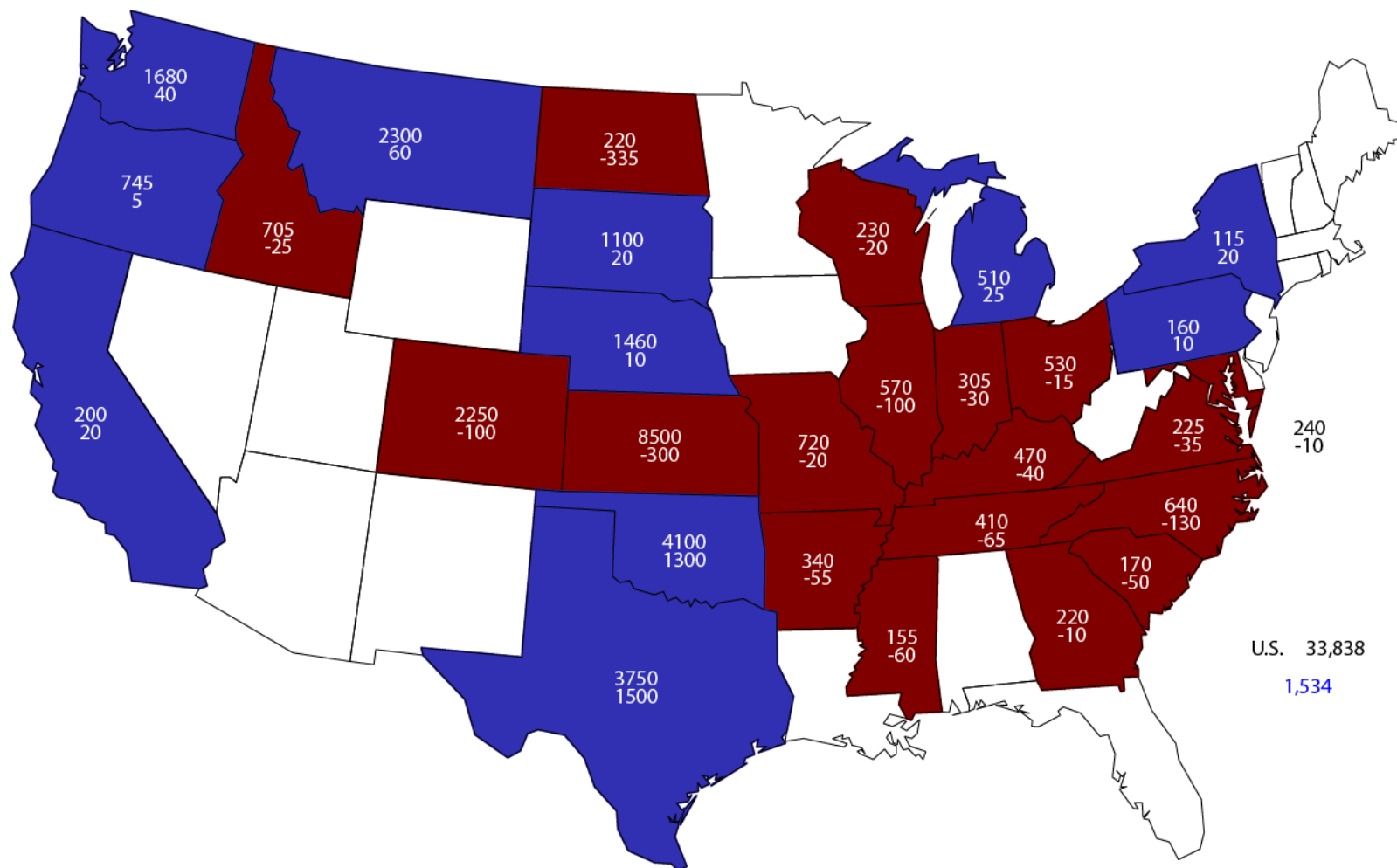
Percent Rated Good to Excellent

Percent



2015 Winter Wheat Harvested Area

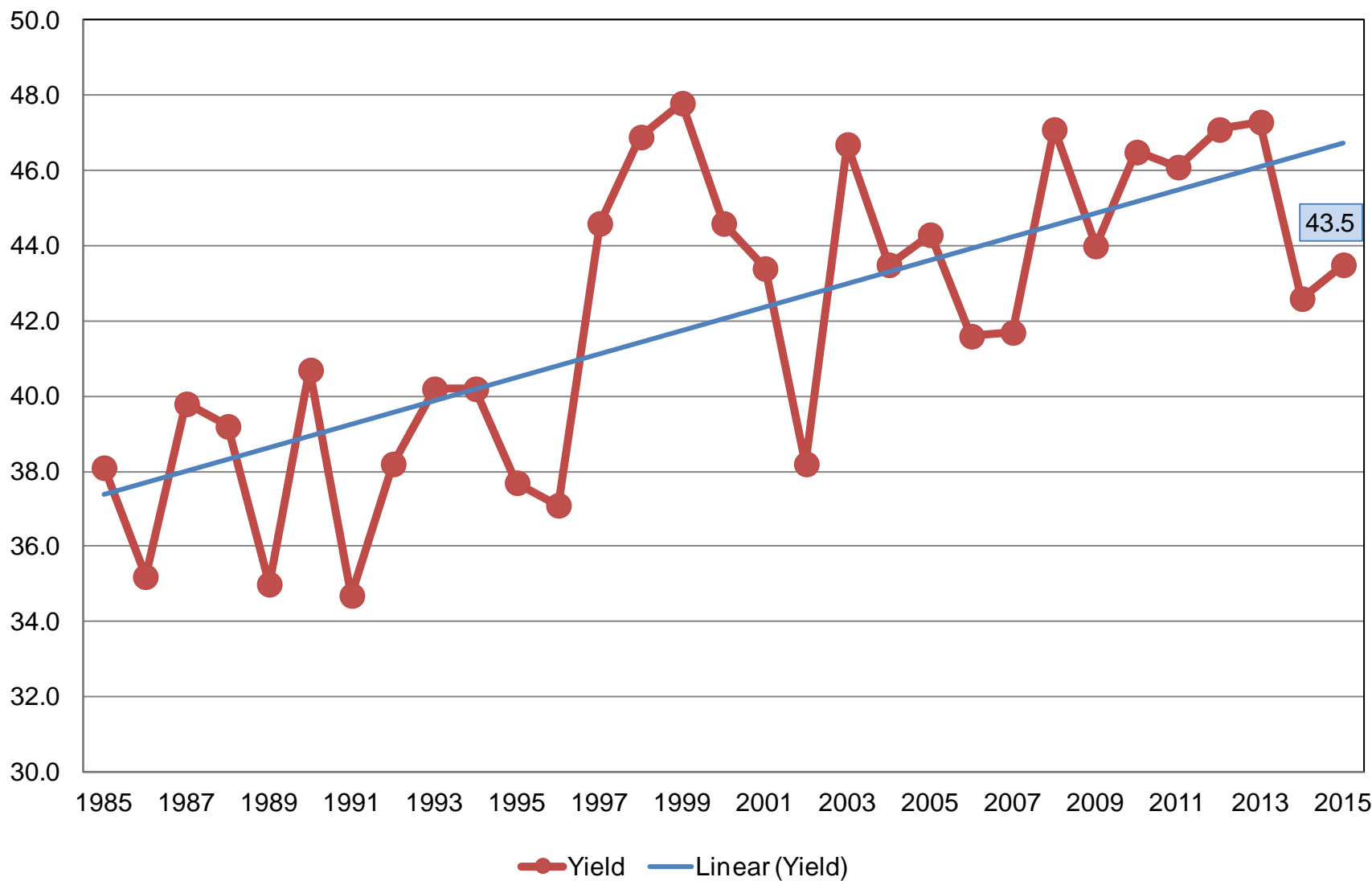
(000) Acres and Change From Previous Year



Winter Wheat Yield

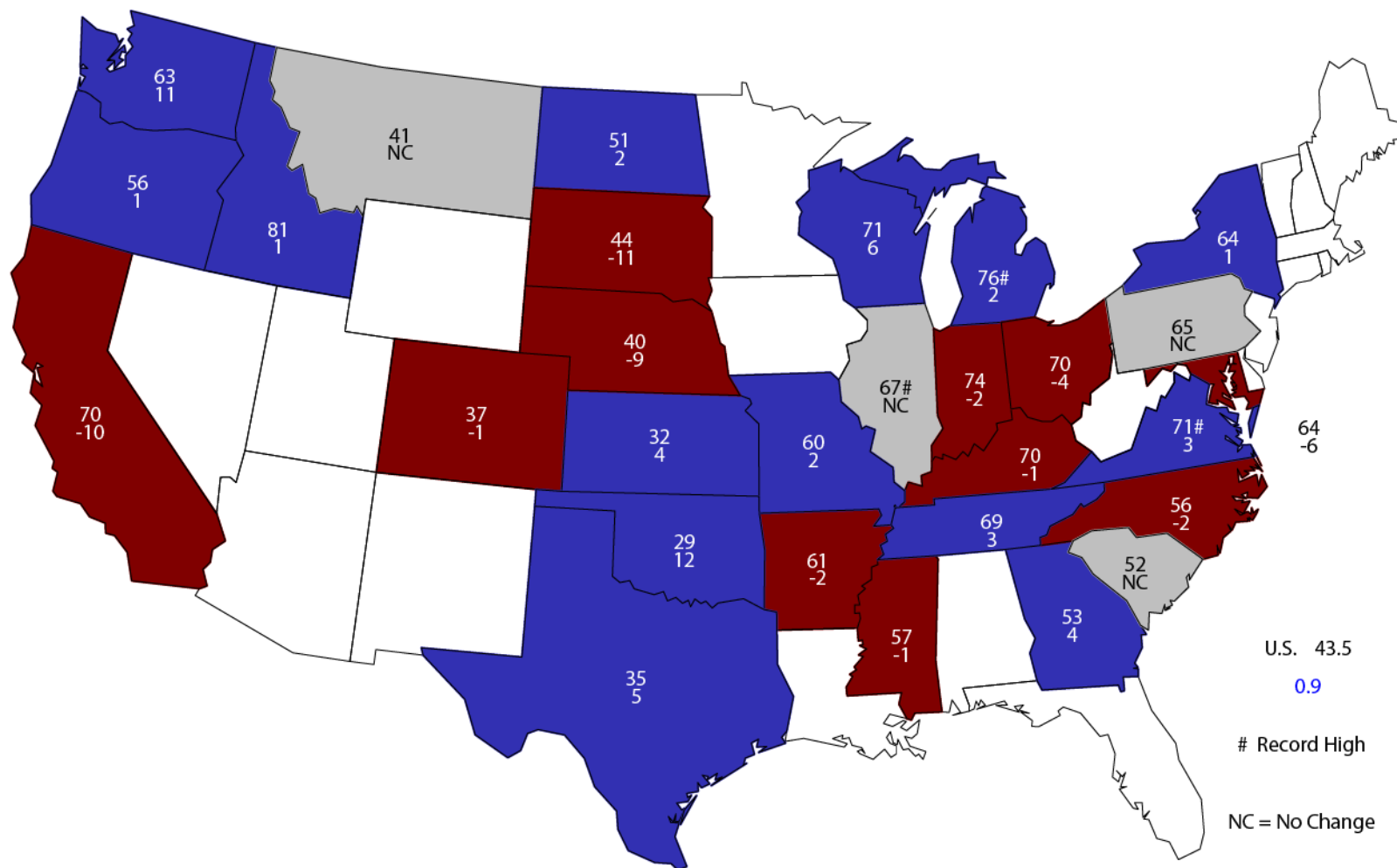
United States

Bushels per Acre



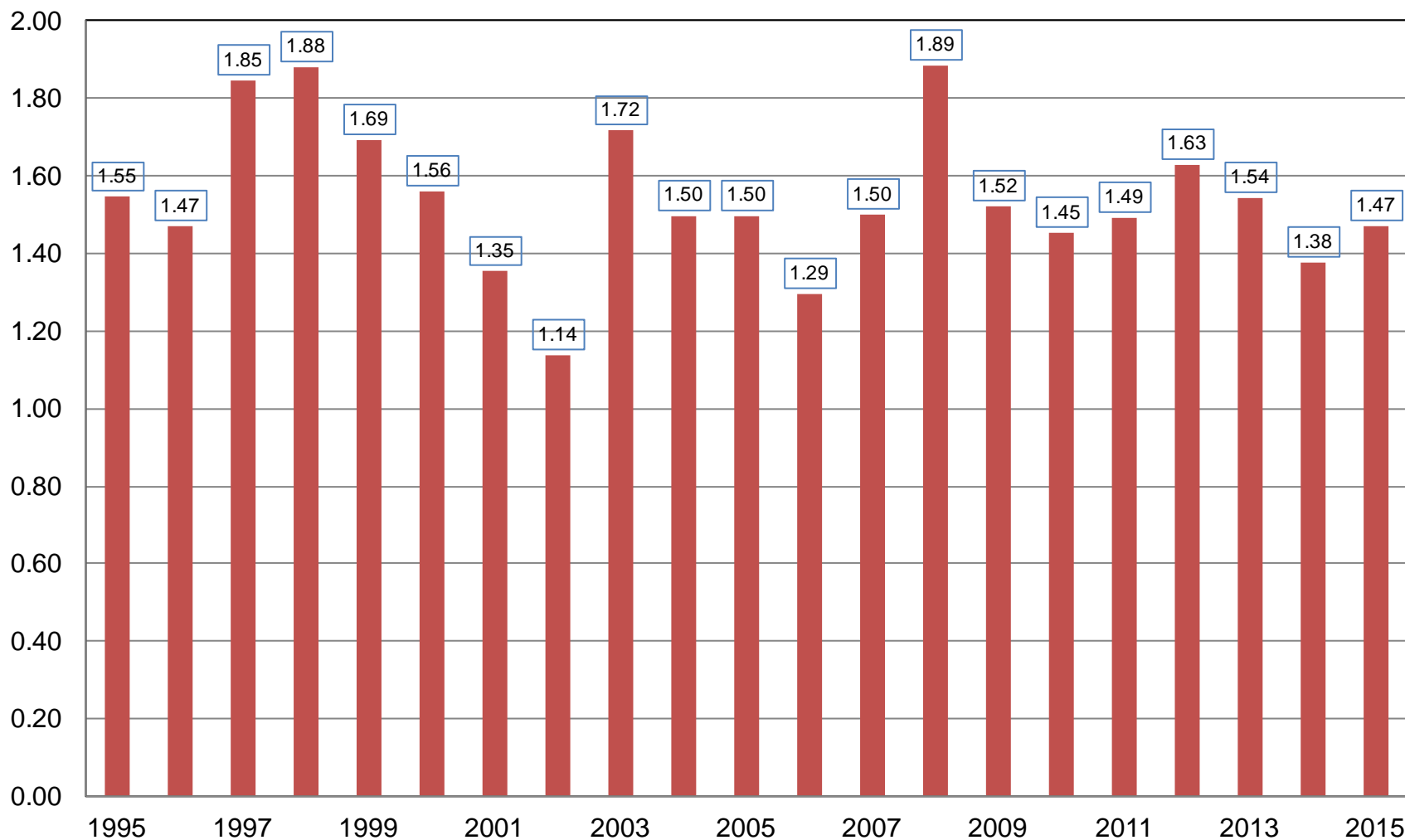
2015 Winter Wheat Yield

Bushels and Change From Previous Year



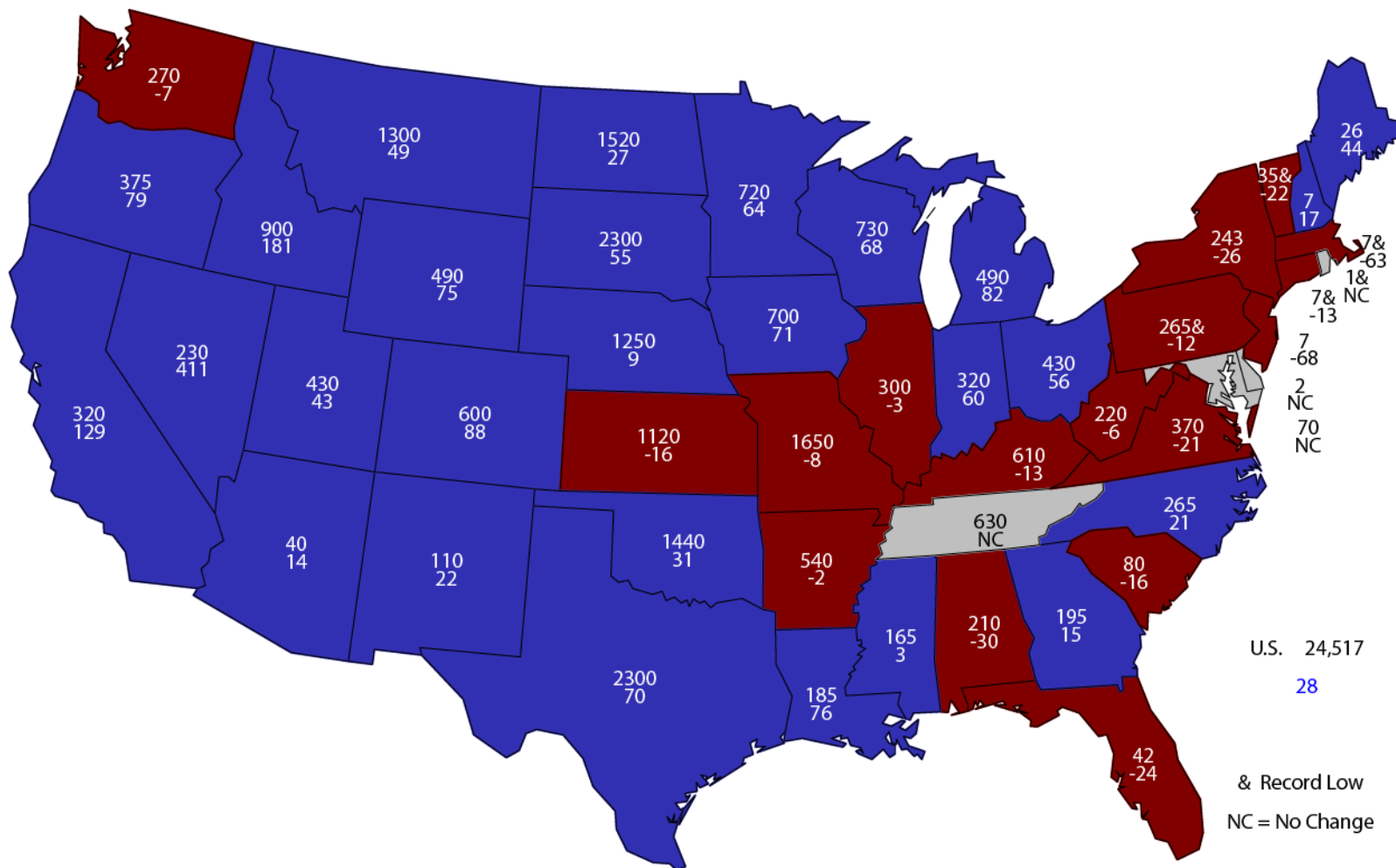
Winter Wheat Production United States

Billion Bushels



May 1, 2015 Hay Stocks

(000) Tons and Percent Change From Previous Year



U.S. 24,517
28

& Record Low
NC = No Change

Crop Weather Report

Week Ending May 18, 2015

- Topsoil and subsoil moisture conditions were worse than a year ago and the five year average.
- Producers have made a lot of progress seeding their spring crops. Weeks ahead of both last year and the five year average on most crops. Due to warm and dry conditions.













Topsoil Moisture

Week Ending May 18, 2015

	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg.
Very short	11	9	4	5
Short	29	38	9	17
Adequate	52	47	74	63
Surplus	8	6	13	15

Subsoil Moisture

Week Ending May 18, 2015

	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg.
Very short	8	7	2	7
Short	26	25	12	18
Adequate	53	55	81	66
Surplus	13	13	5	9

Winter Wheat Condition

Week Ending May 18, 2015

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
This week	3	7	32	39	19
Last week	2	6	31	39	22
Last year	2	5	29	45	19
5-yr avg.	2	7	29	48	14

Seeding Completed

Week Ending May 18, 2015

	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg.
Spring Wheat	95	86	71	72
Durum Wheat	96	67	45	53
Barley	98	92	86	81
Oats	89	79	54	64
Dry Peas	95	88	81	80
Lentils	84	64	68	77
Flaxseed	79	58	40	46
Canola	87	77	67	68

Seeding Completed

Week Ending May 18, 2015

	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg.
Corn	80	56	49	59
Potatoes	44	12	13	38
Sugar Beets	96	89	97	80

Emerged

Week Ending May 18, 2015

	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg.
Spring Wheat	70	57	32	31
Durum Wheat	30	16	9	15
Barley	82	66	37	41
Oats	47	36	20	29
Dry Peas	53	24	40	28
Canola	32	5	19	20
Sugar Beets	76	48	42	40

Livestock Grazing

Week Ending May 18, 2015

- 55 percent of Cattle and Calves have been moved to summer ranges, behind last years 59 percent but ahead of the five-year average of 49 percent.
- 64 percent of Sheep and Lambs have been moved to summer ranges, ahead of last years 55 percent and the five-year average of 43 percent.
- 31 percent of cattle & calves and 25 percent of sheep & lambs were receiving supplemental feed

Range & Pasture Feed Condition

Week Ending May 18, 2015

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
This week	5	14	48	30	3
Last week	4	14	49	32	1
Last year	2	14	37	41	6
5-yr avg.	5	15	36	37	7

Calving & Lambing Completed Week Ending May 18, 2015

- 96 percent of cows have calved, ahead of last year's 92 percent and the same as the five-year average of 96 percent.
- 95 percent of ewes have lambed, compared to 85 percent last year and 87 percent for the five-year average.

Surveys

- June Acreage Surveys
- June Hogs
- June Grain Stocks
- Montana Wheat Varieties Survey
- Equine NAHMS (Herd Health)
- CEAP (Conservation Effects Assessment Project)
- July Cattle

June Releases

- June Hog Report released on June 26
- June Acreage, and June Stocks Reports released on June 30

Summary

Week ending May 18, 2015

- Soil moisture conditions continue to be below average due to warm/dry weather
- 4.6 days were suitable for field work during the week, compared to 5.3 days last year and 5.3 days for the five-year average
- Spring planting of most crops is almost finished, well ahead of last year and the five year average

USDA, NASS, Montana Field Office

Eric Sommer, State Statistician

1-800-835-2612 or 406-441-1240

Email: nass-mt@nass.usda.gov

www.nass.usda.gov/mt/

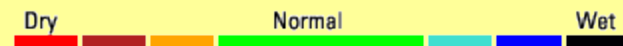
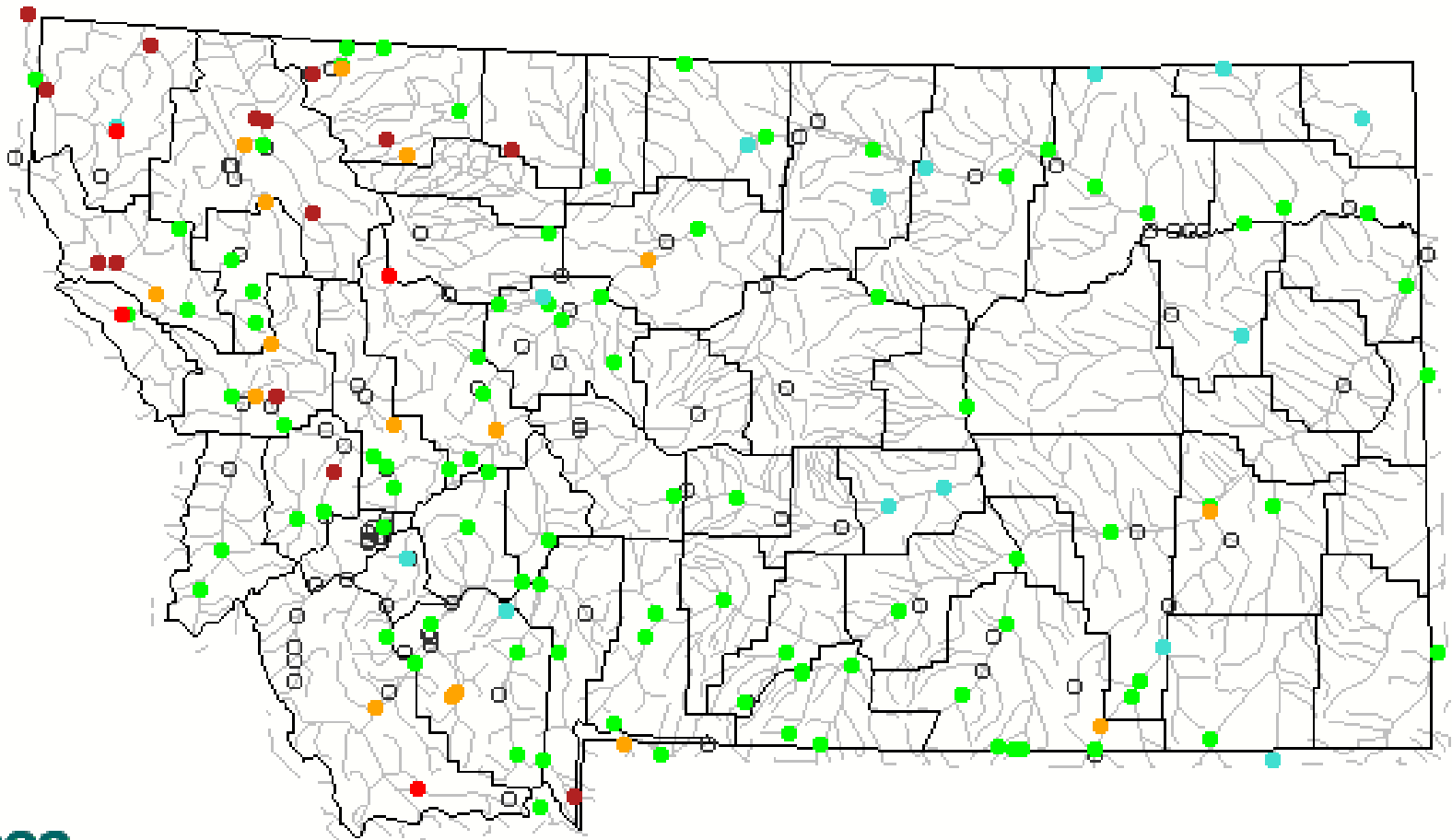
[http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana
Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Montana_Publications/Crop_Progress_&_Condition/index.asp)

USGS Streamflows, May 2014



DAILY STREAMFLOW CONDITIONS

Wednesday, May 20, 2015 12:30ET



New Minimum Discharge for May 20

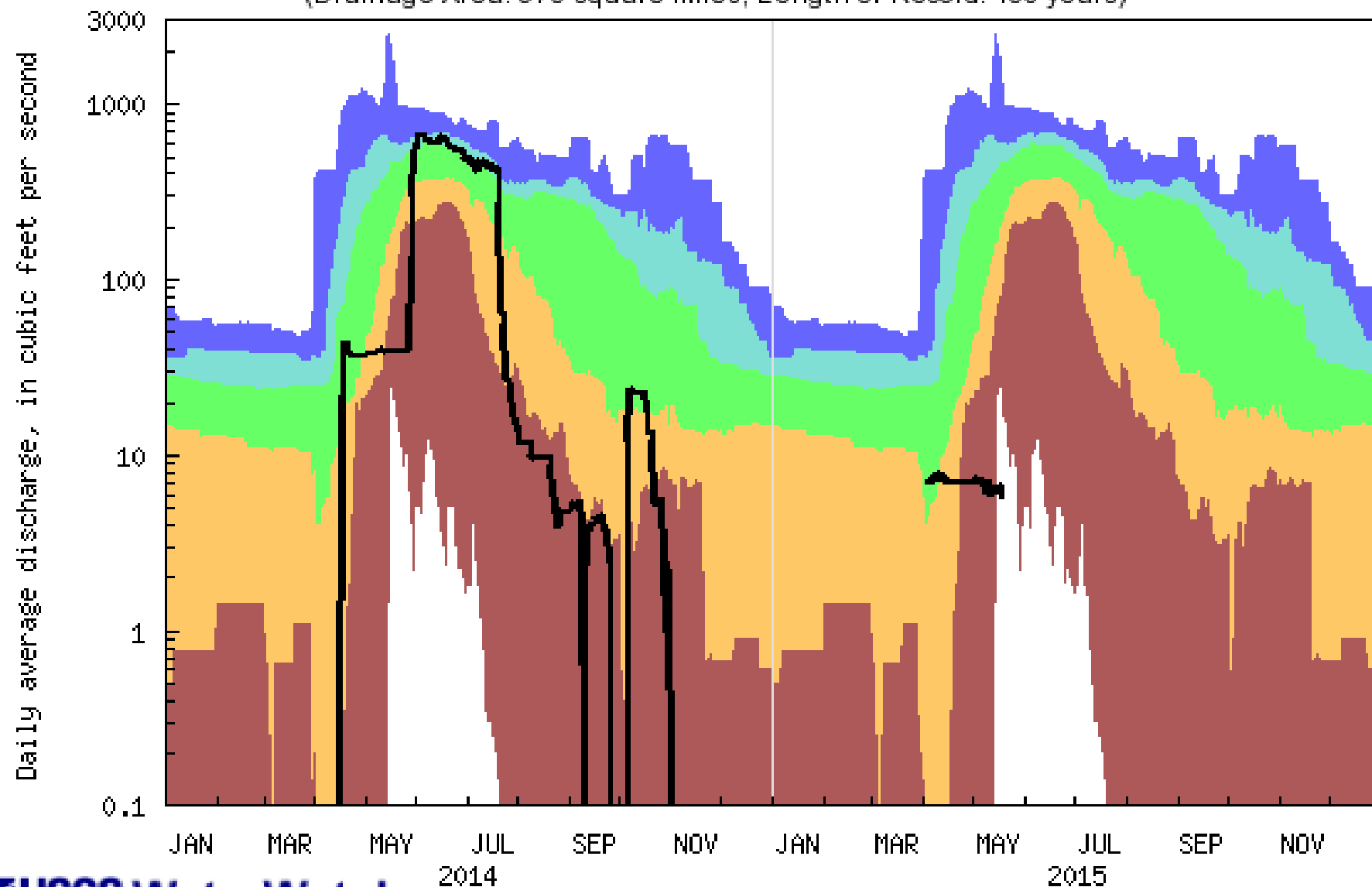
06012500 – Red Rock River below Lima Reservoir, near Monida

06078500 – North Fork Sun River near Augusta

12302055 – Fisher River near Libby

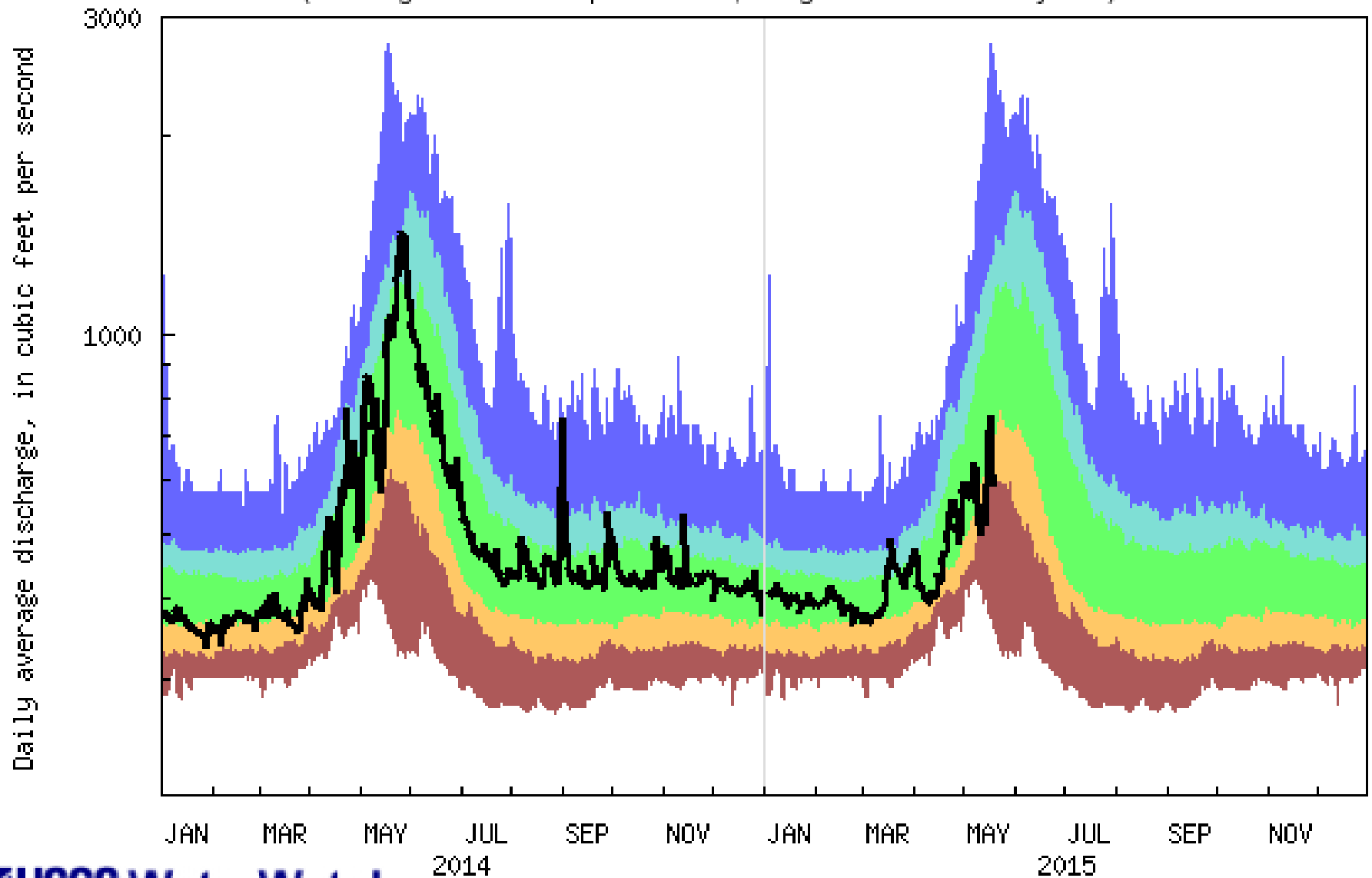
12354000 – St Regis River near St Regis

USGS 06012500 Red Rock R bl Lima Reservoir nr Monida MT
(Drainage Area: 570 square miles, Length of Record: 103 years)



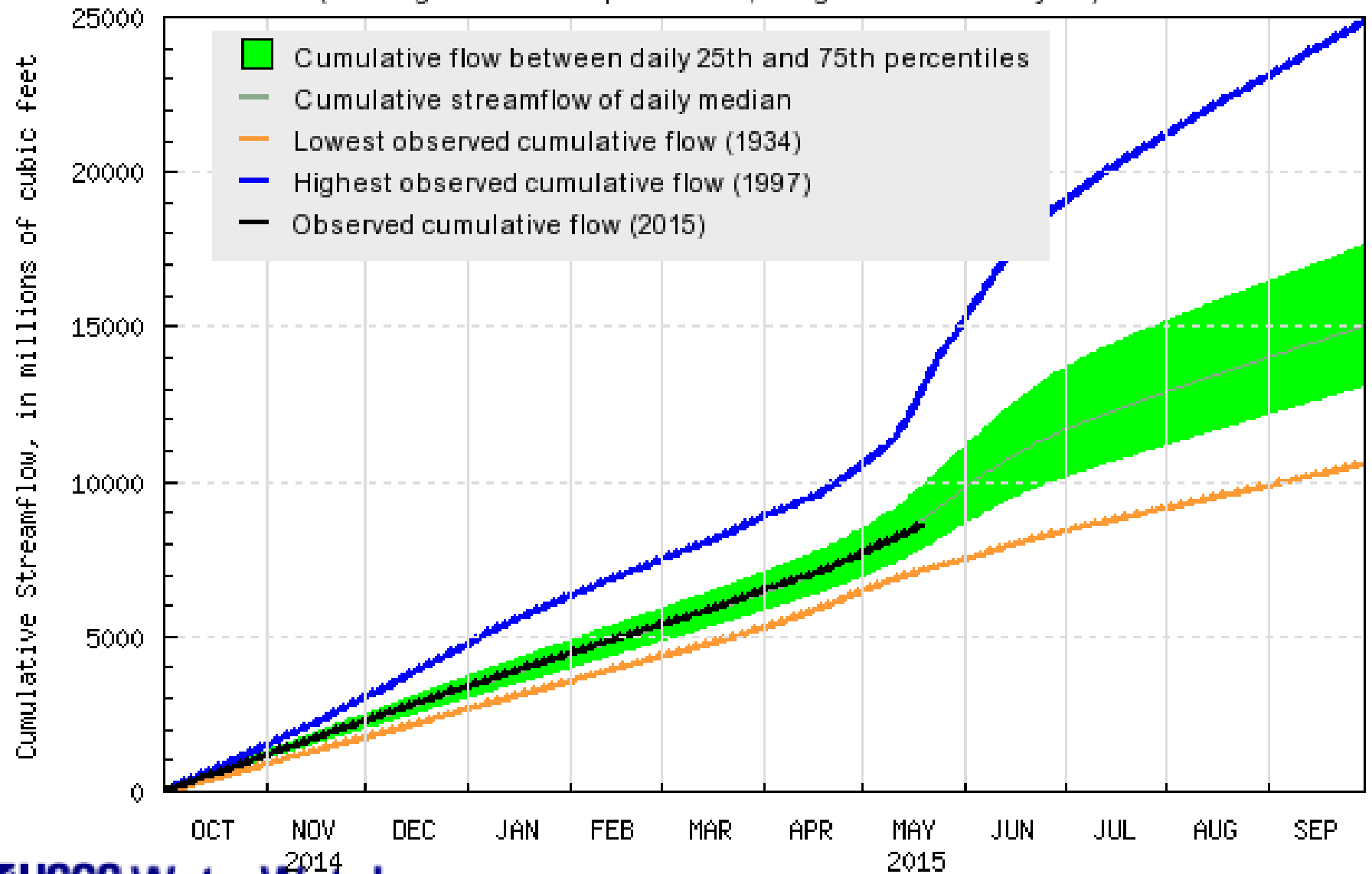
Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06037500 Madison River near West Yellowstone MT
(Drainage Area: 420 square miles, Length of Record: 101 years)

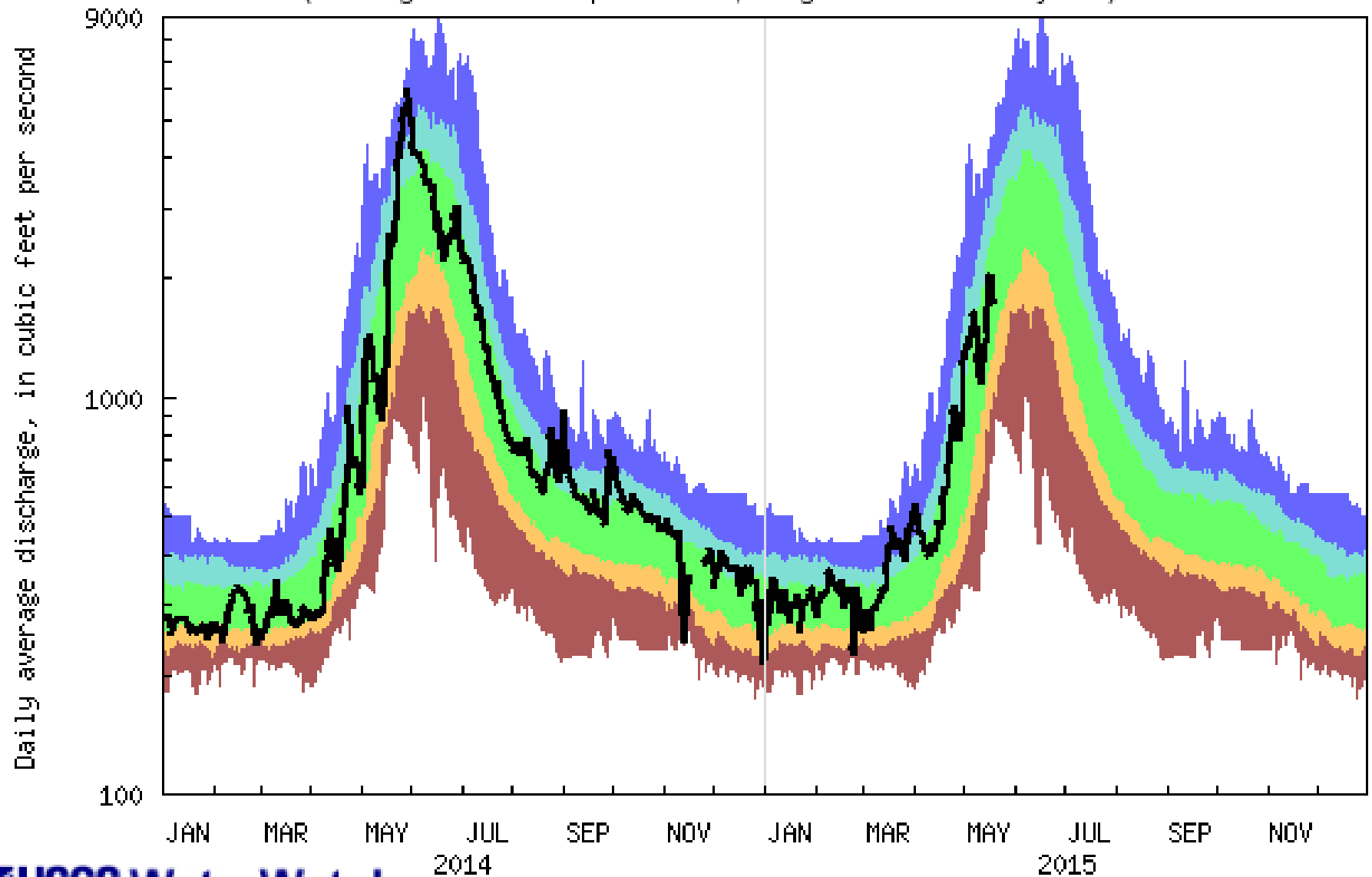


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06037500 Madison River near West Yellowstone MT
(Drainage area: 420 square miles, Length of Record: 86 year)

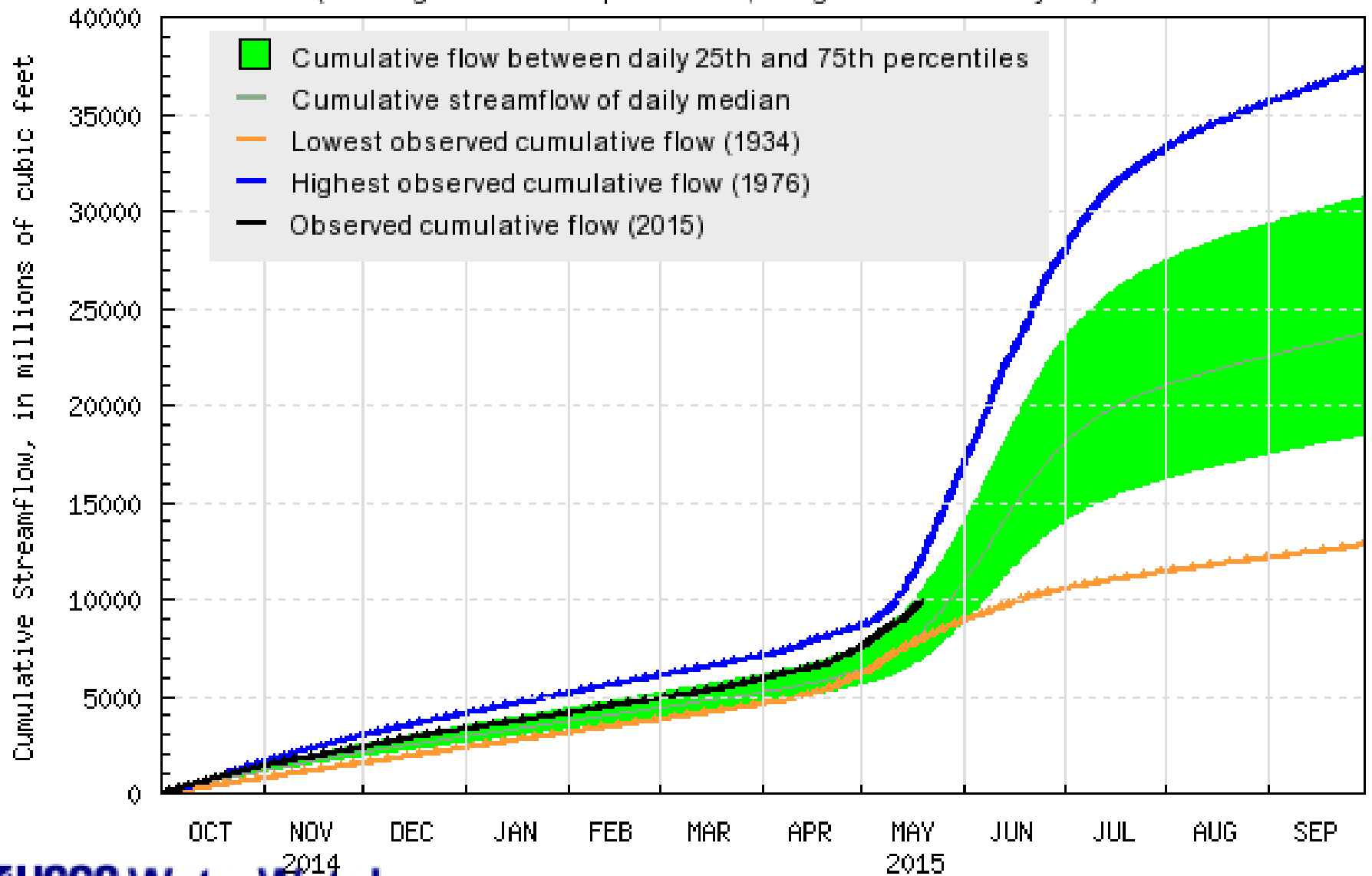


USGS 06043500 Gallatin River near Gallatin Gateway MT
(Drainage Area: 825 square miles, Length of Record: 125 years)

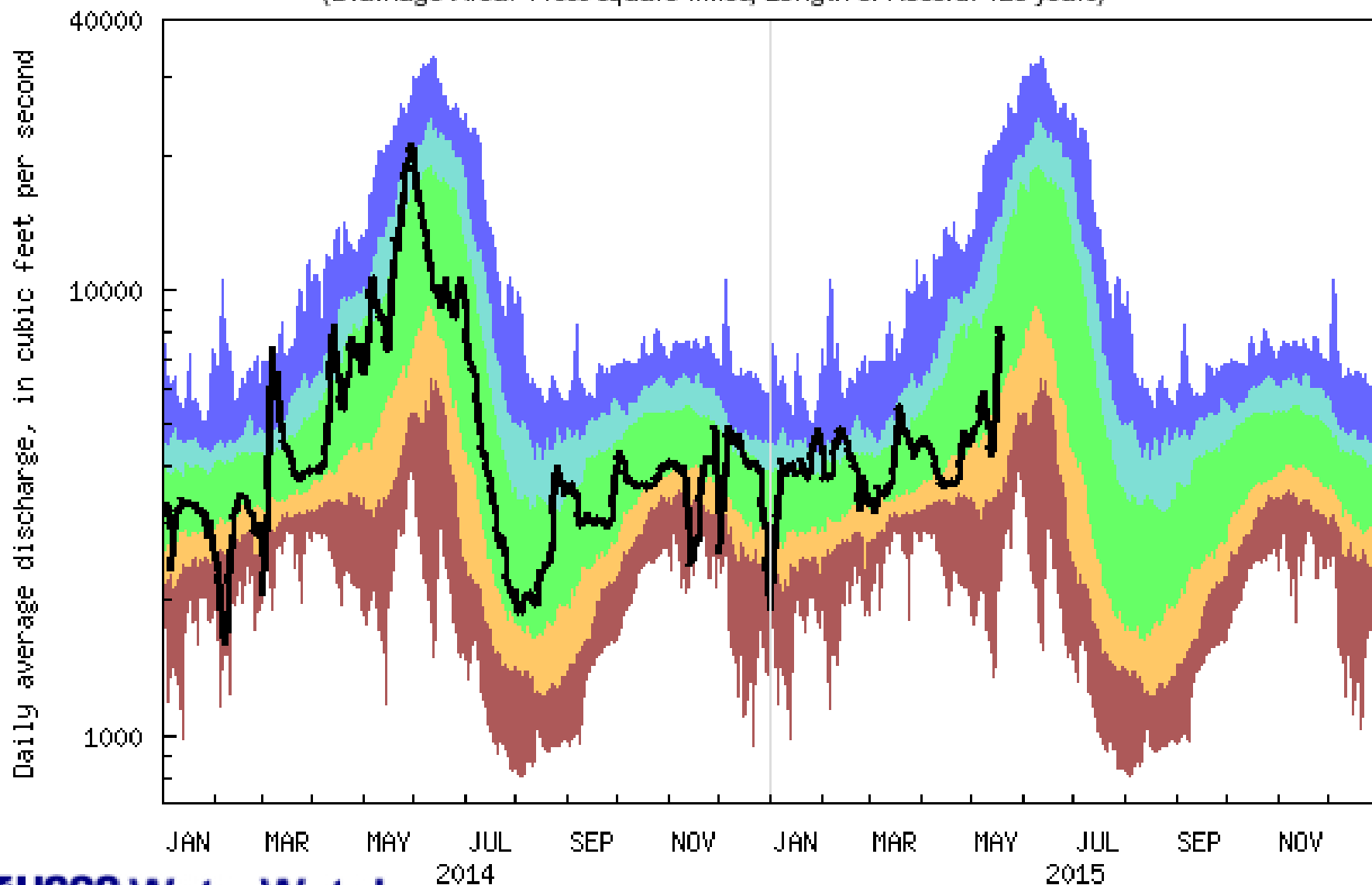


Explanation - Percentile classes					Flow
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06043500 Gallatin River near Gallatin Gateway MT
(Drainage area: 825 square miles, Length of Record: 83 year)

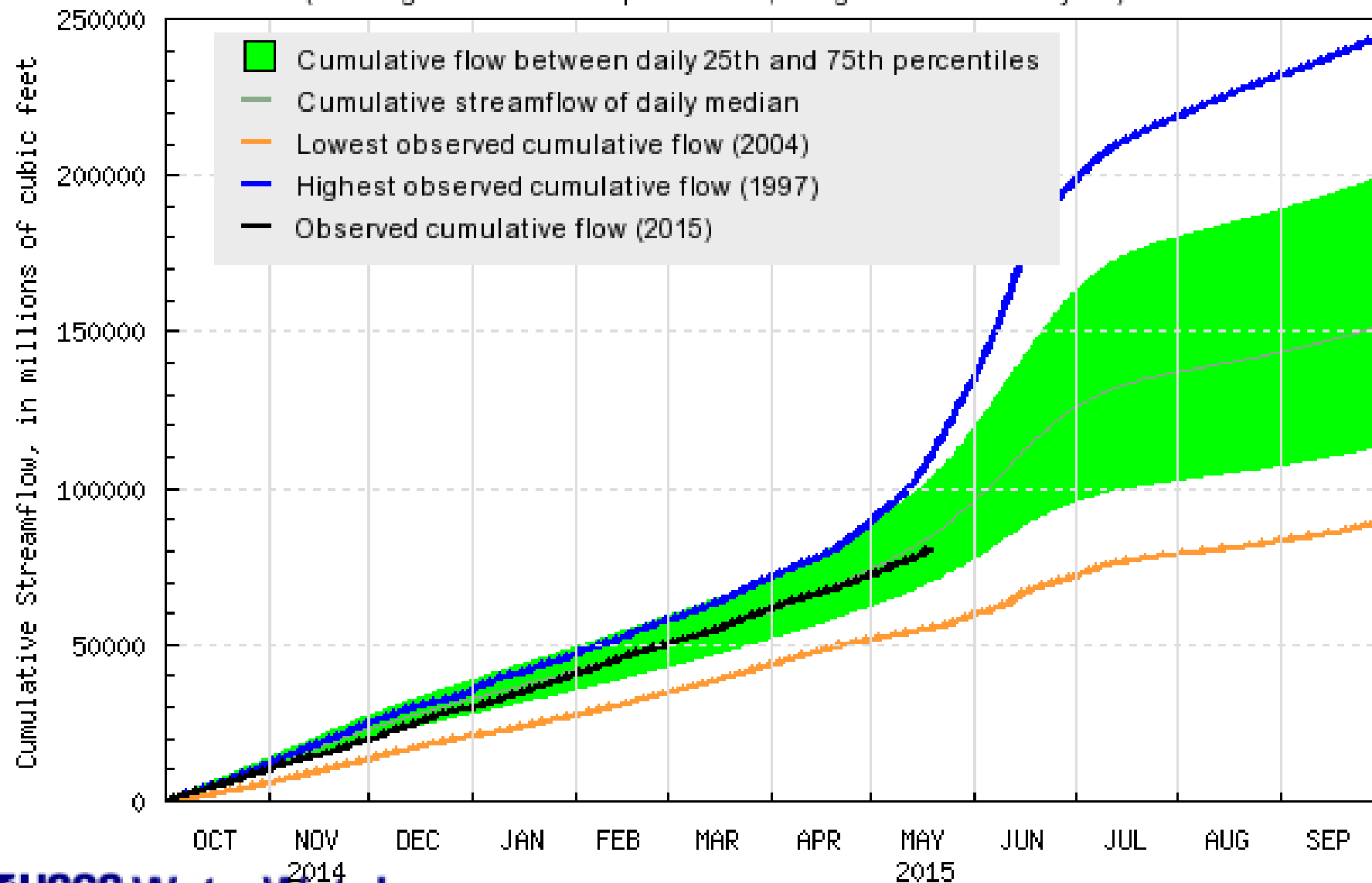


USGS 06054500 Missouri River at Toston MT
(Drainage Area: 14669 square miles, Length of Record: 125 years)

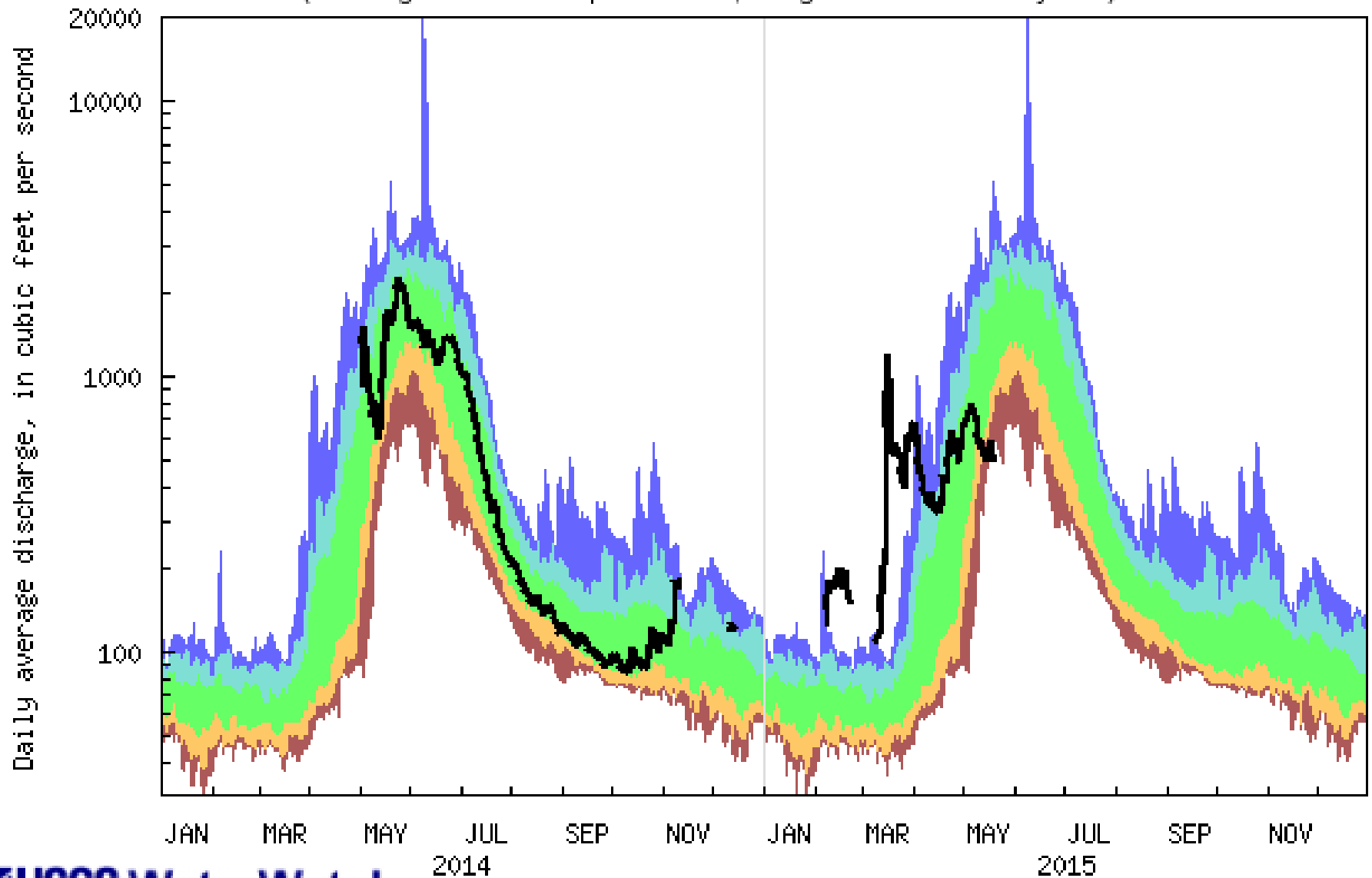


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06054500 Missouri River at Toston MT
(Drainage area: 14669 square miles, Length of Record: 79 year)

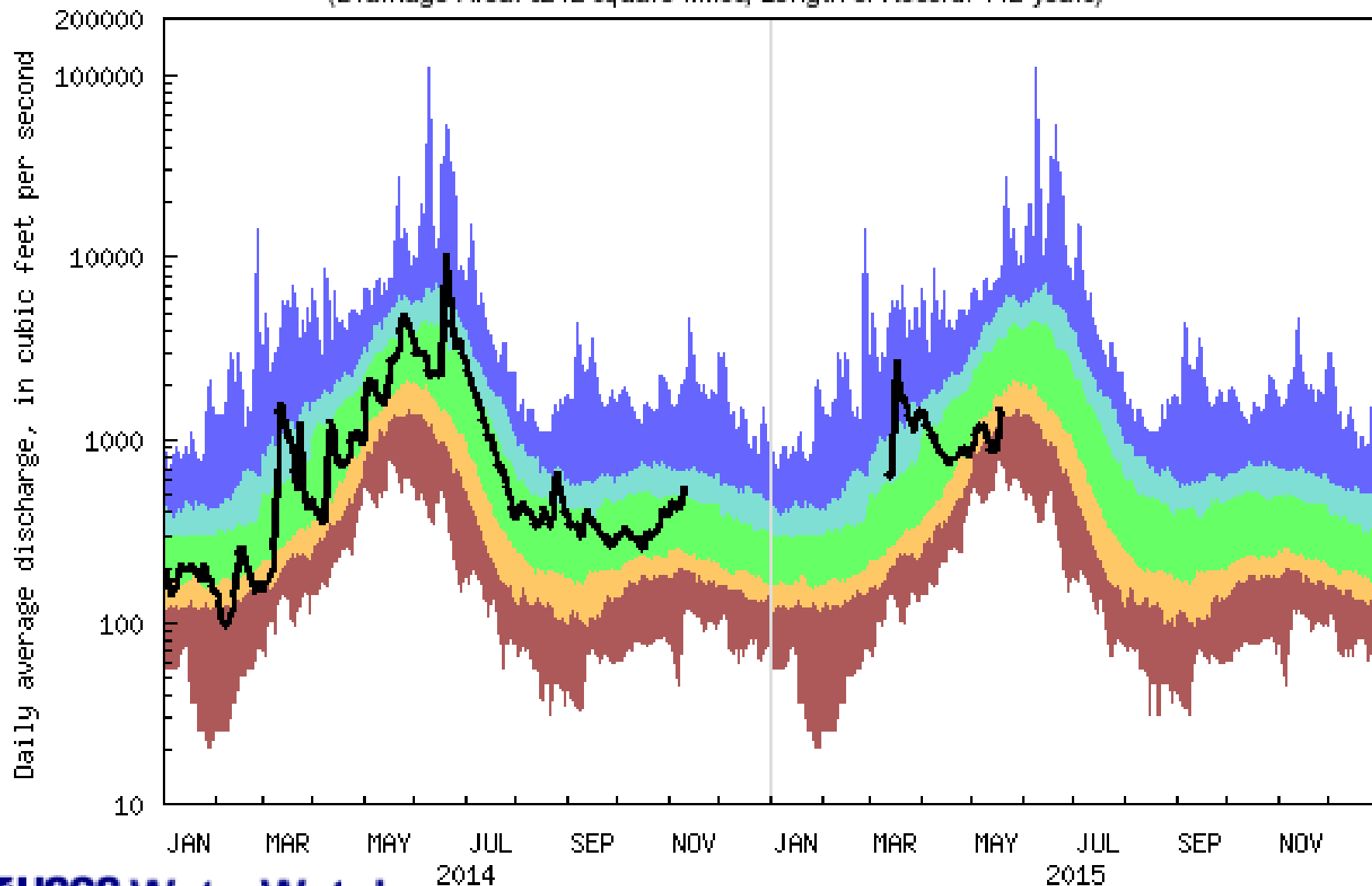


USGS 06078500 North Fork Sun River near Augusta MT
(Drainage Area: 258 square miles, Length of Record: 103 years)



Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06099500 Marias River near Shelby MT
(Drainage Area: 3242 square miles, Length of Record: 112 years)

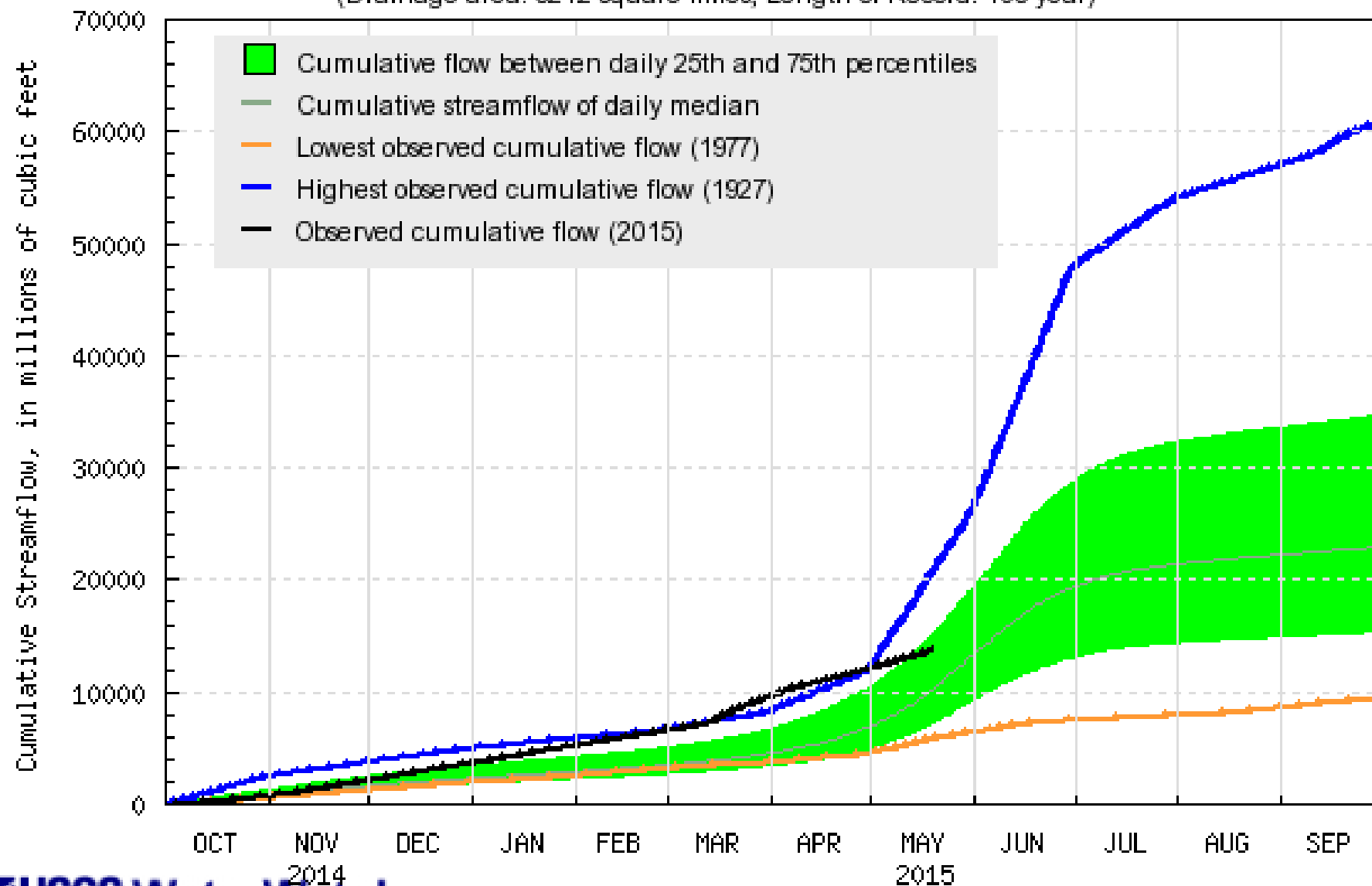


USGS WaterWatch

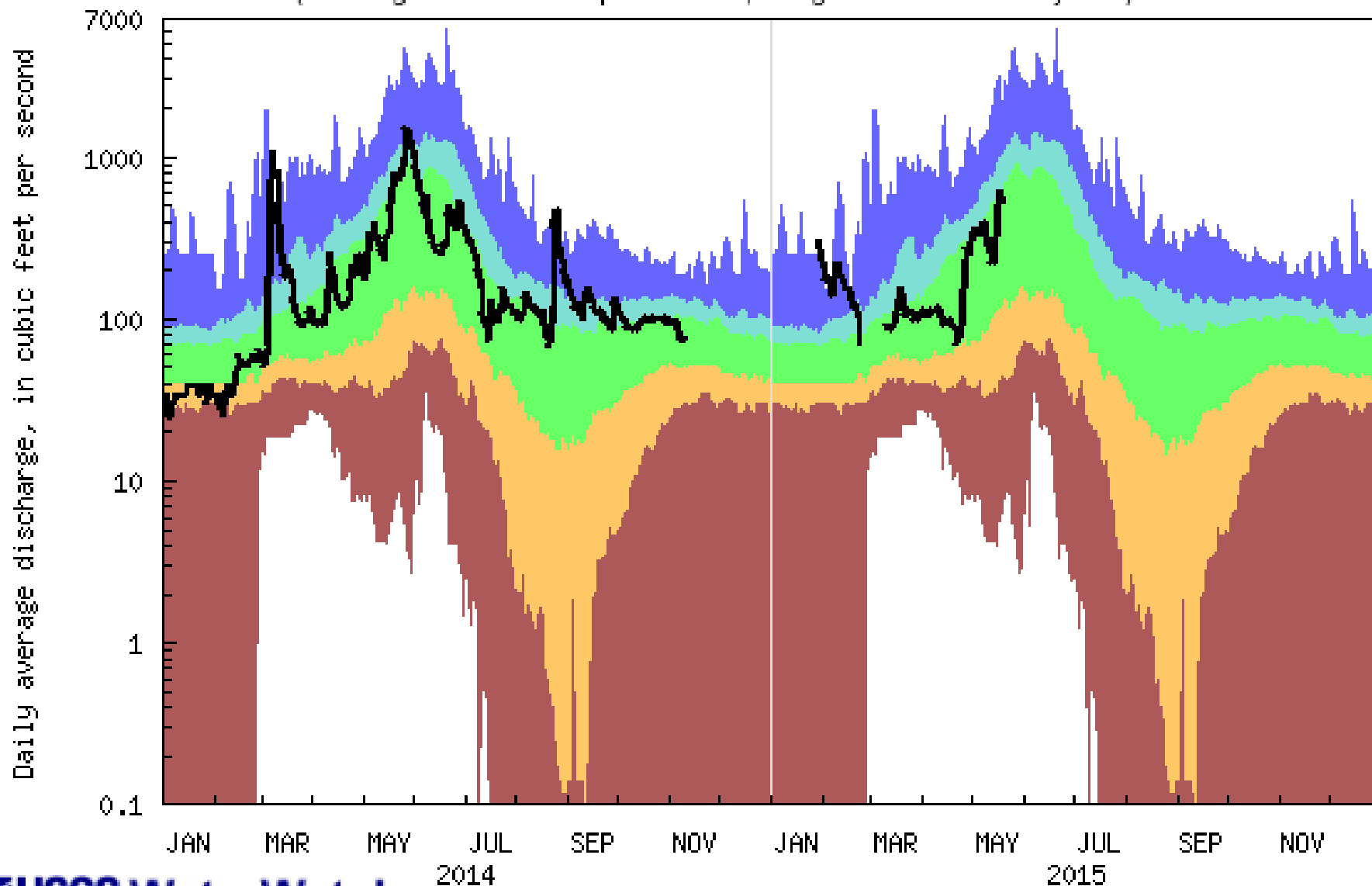
Last updated: 2015-05-20

Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06099500 Marias River near Shelby MT
(Drainage area: 3242 square miles, Length of Record: 105 year)

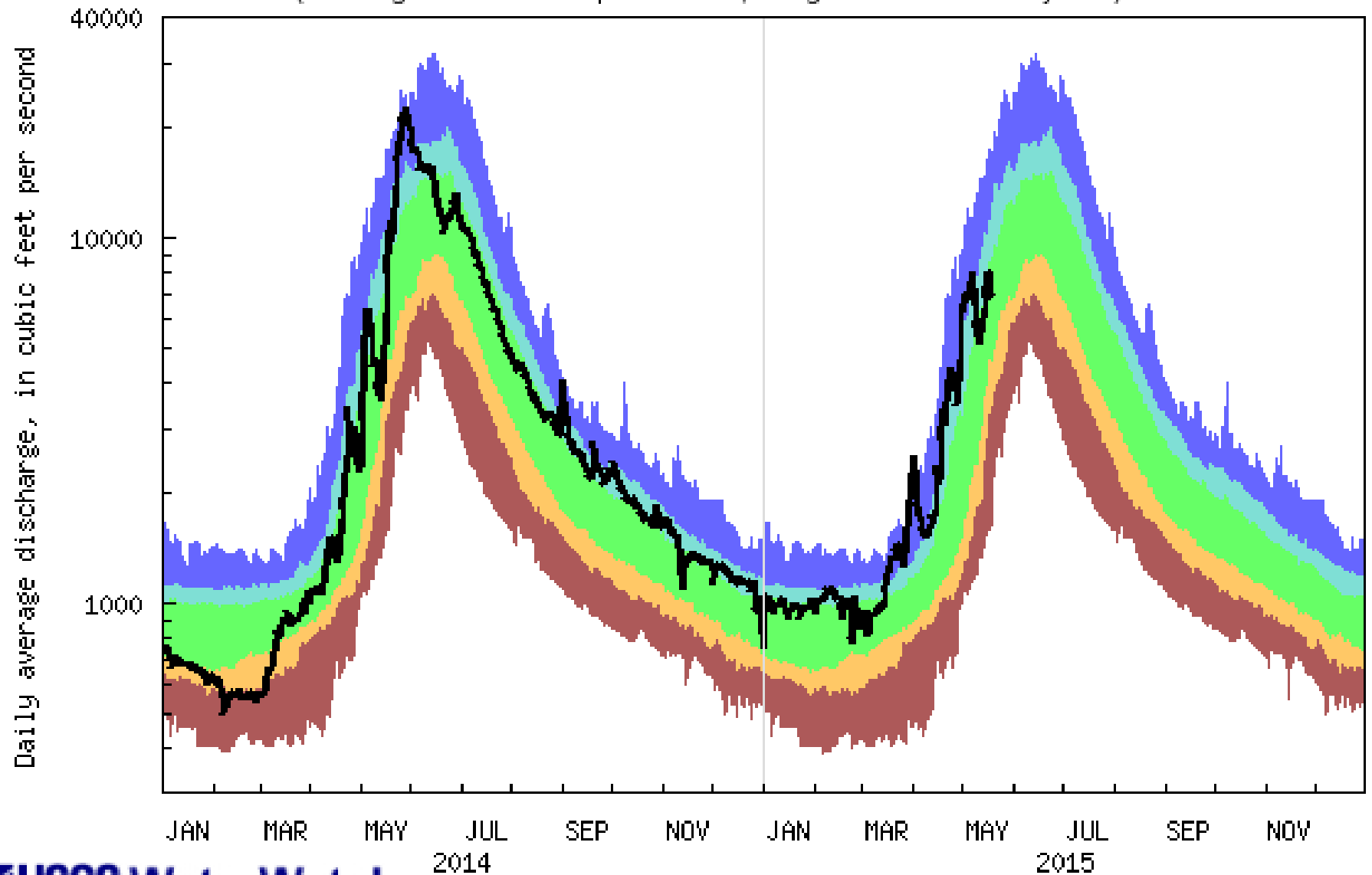


USGS 06120500 Musselshell River at Harlowton MT
(Drainage Area: 1125 square miles, Length of Record: 107 years)

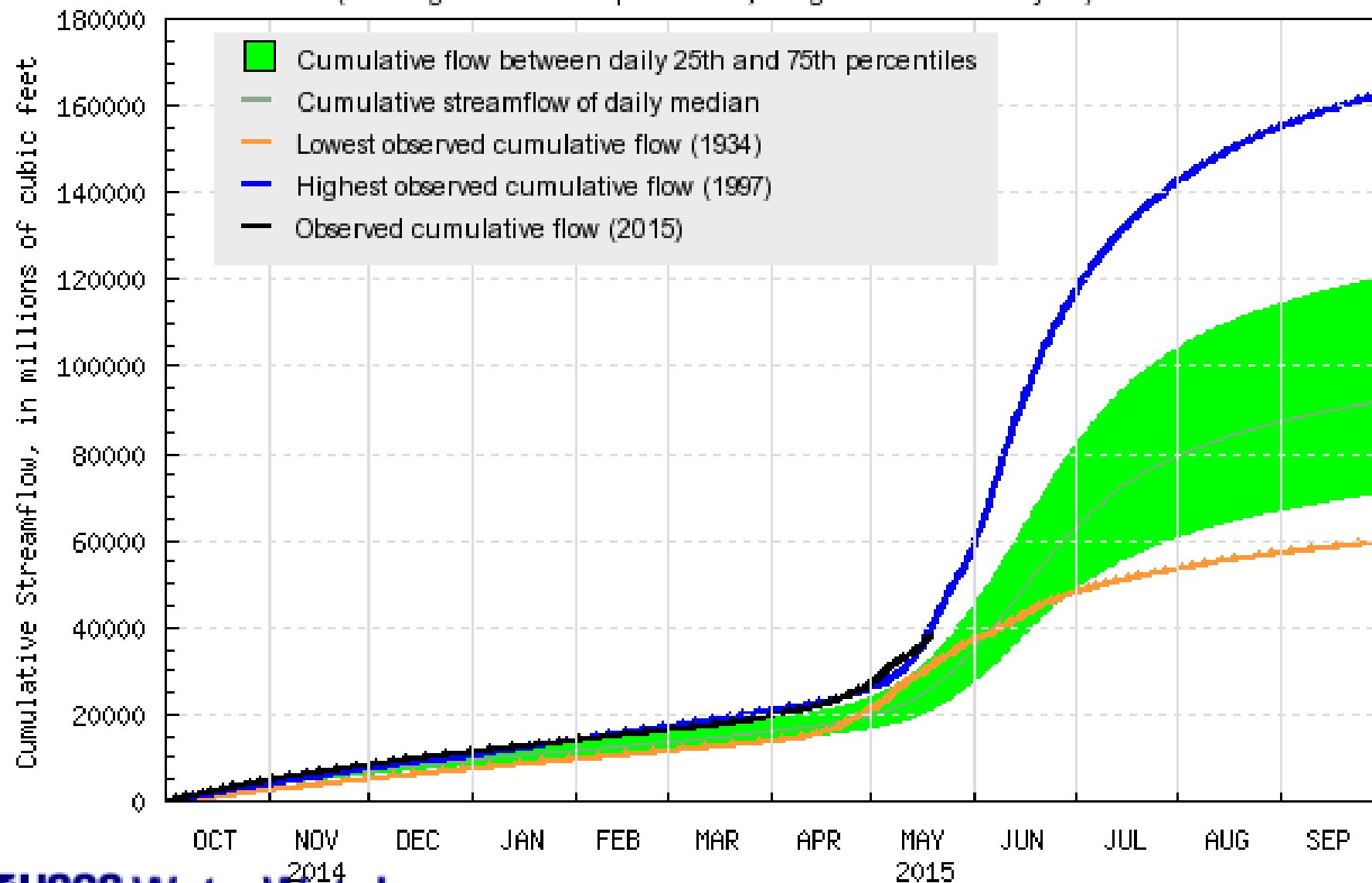


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

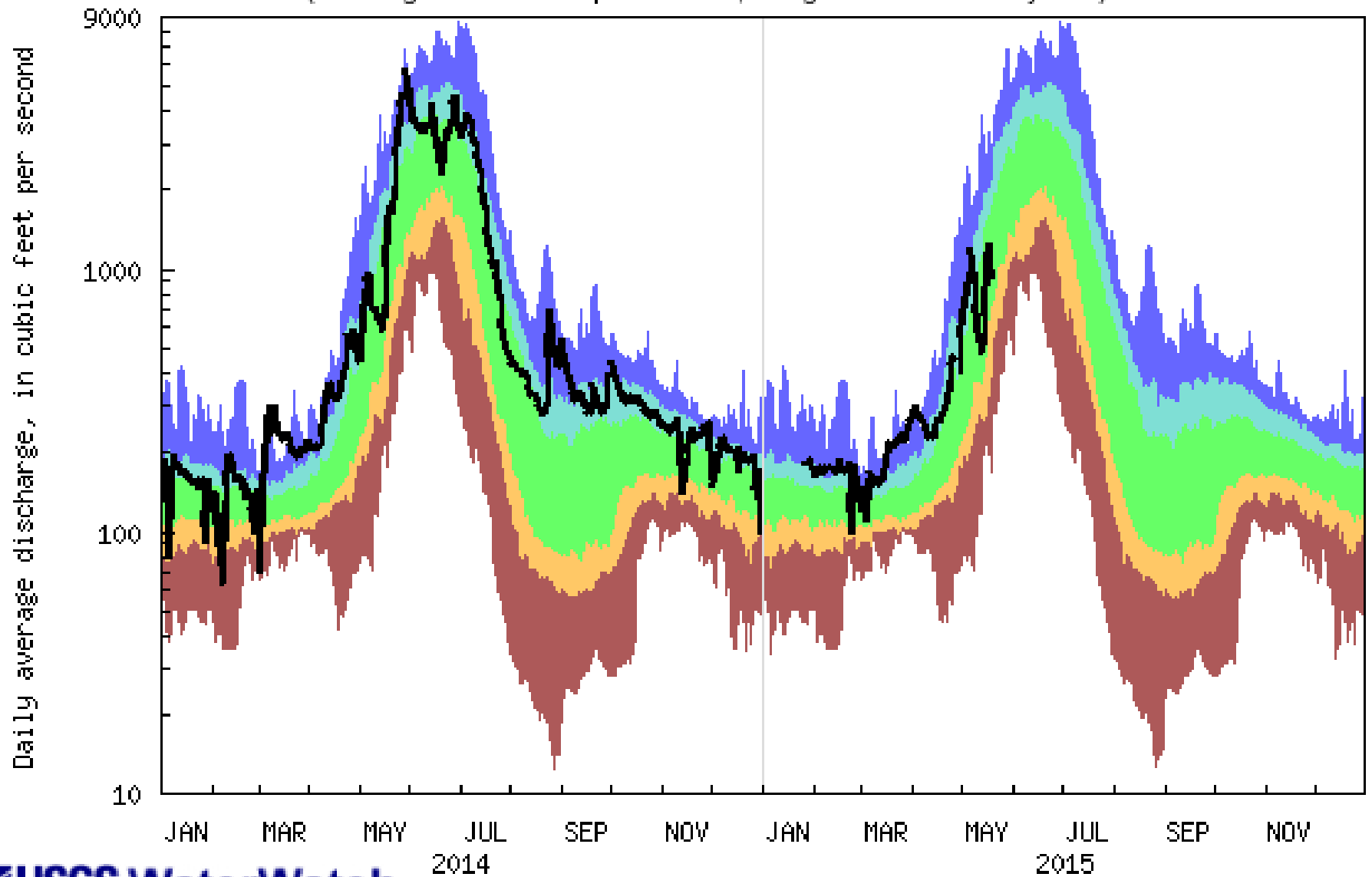
USGS 06191500 Yellowstone River at Corwin Springs MT
(Drainage Area: 2619 square miles, Length of Record: 125 years)



USGS 06191500 Yellowstone River at Corwin Springs MT
(Drainage area: 2619 square miles, Length of Record: 107 year)

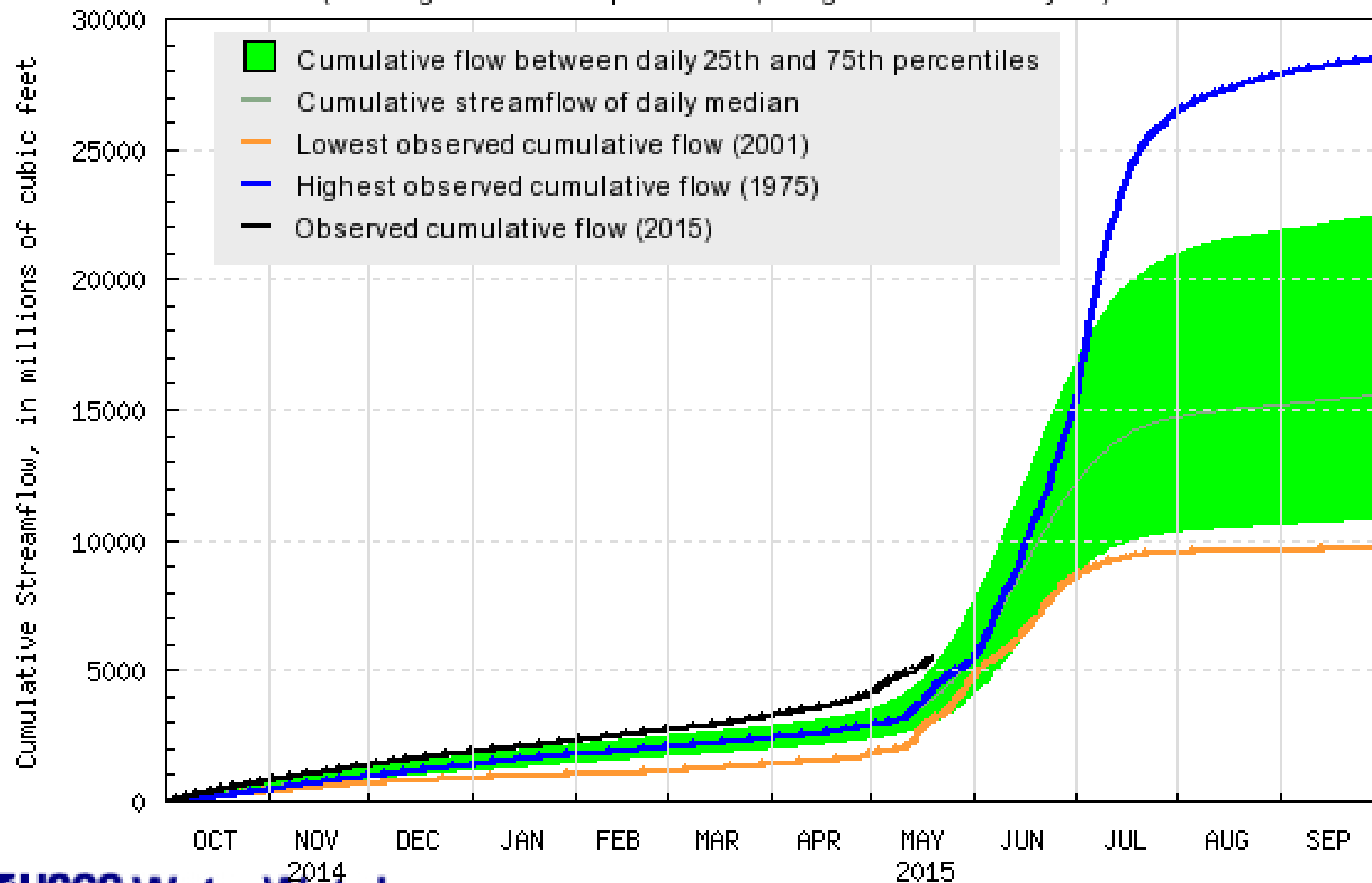


USGS 06200000 Boulder River at Big Timber MT
(Drainage Area: 523 square miles, Length of Record: 67 years)

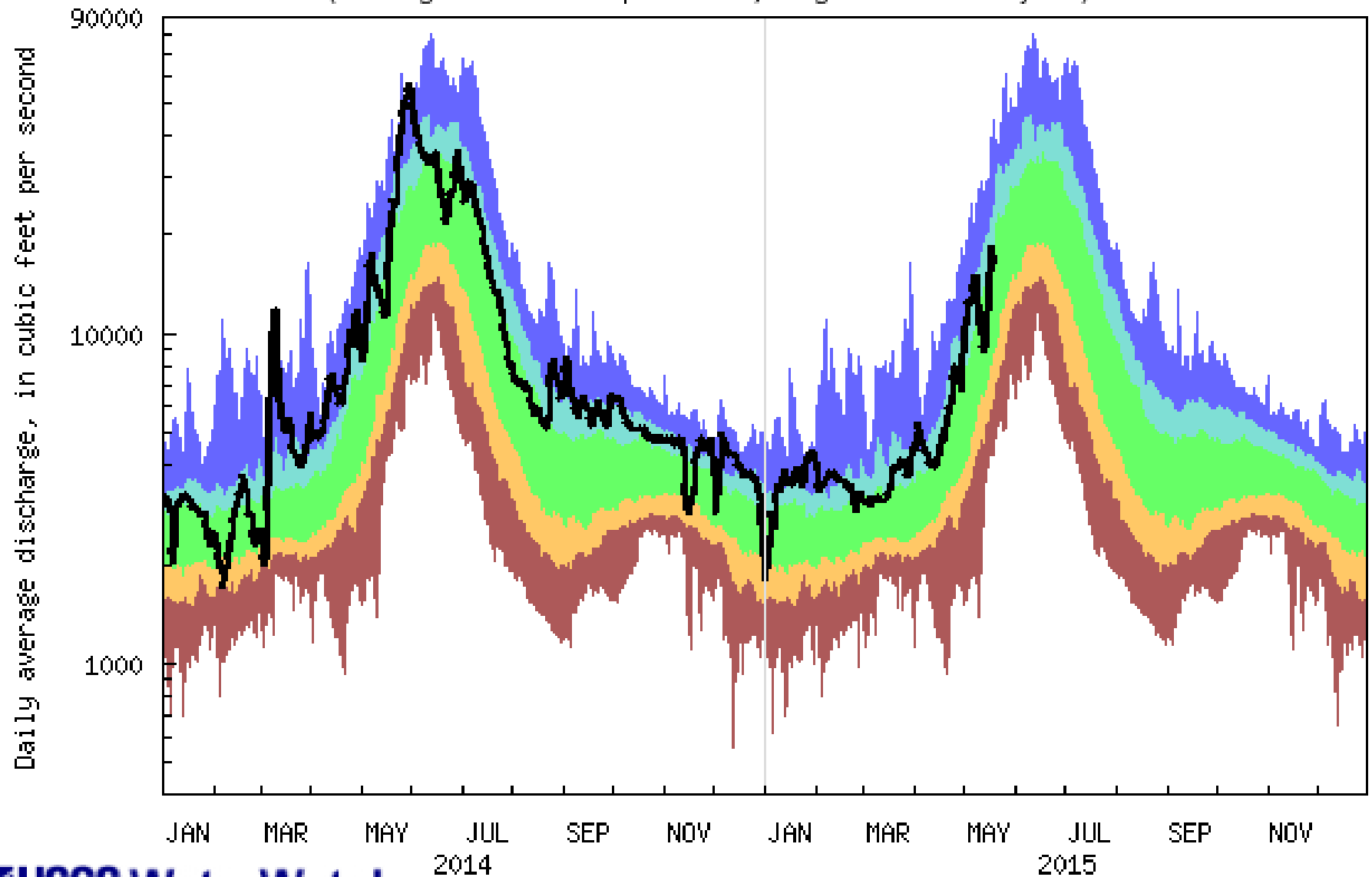


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06200000 Boulder River at Big Timber MT
(Drainage area: 523 square miles, Length of Record: 64 year)

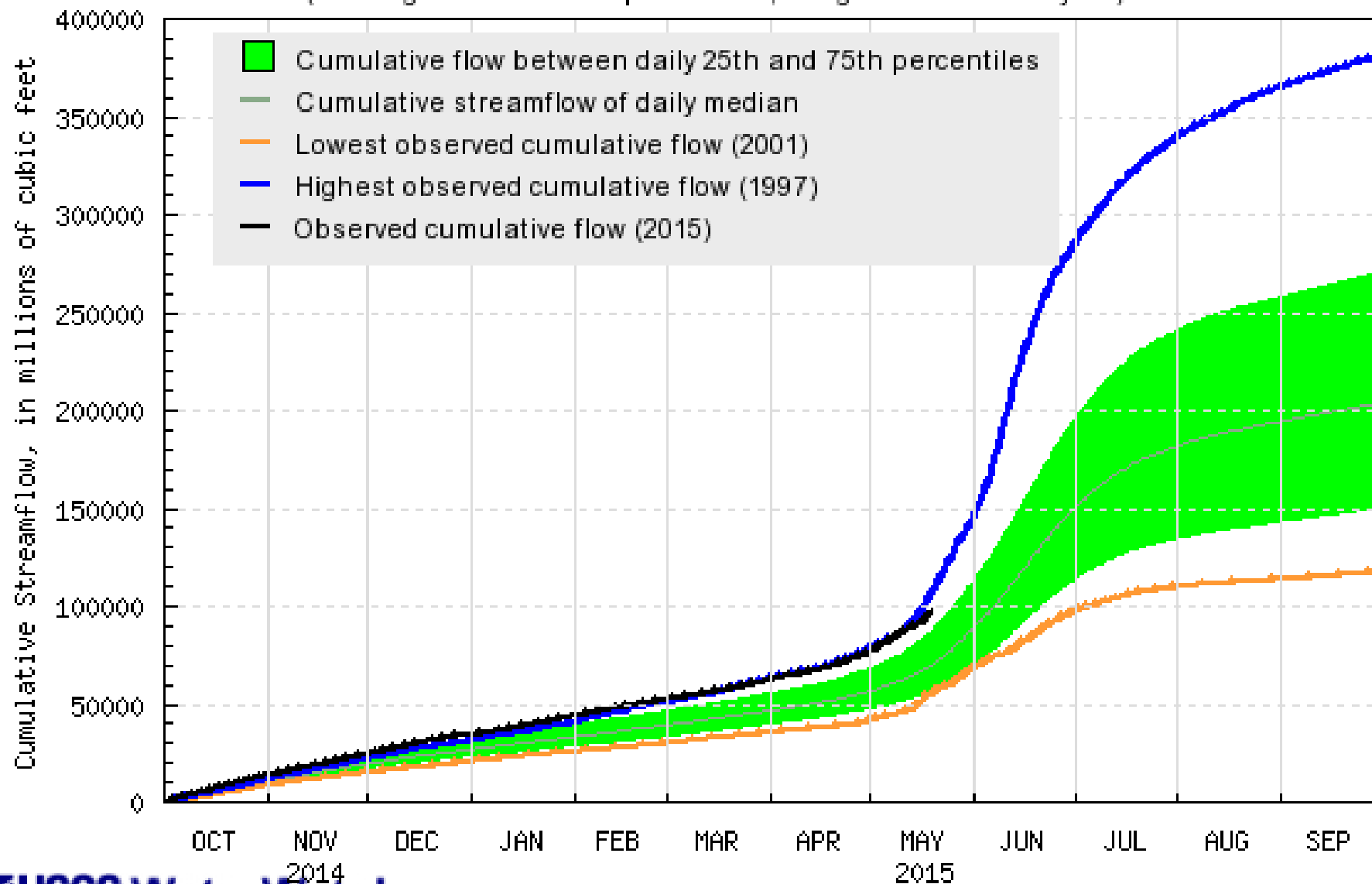


USGS 06214500 Yellowstone River at Billings MT
(Drainage Area: 11805 square miles, Length of Record: 86 years)

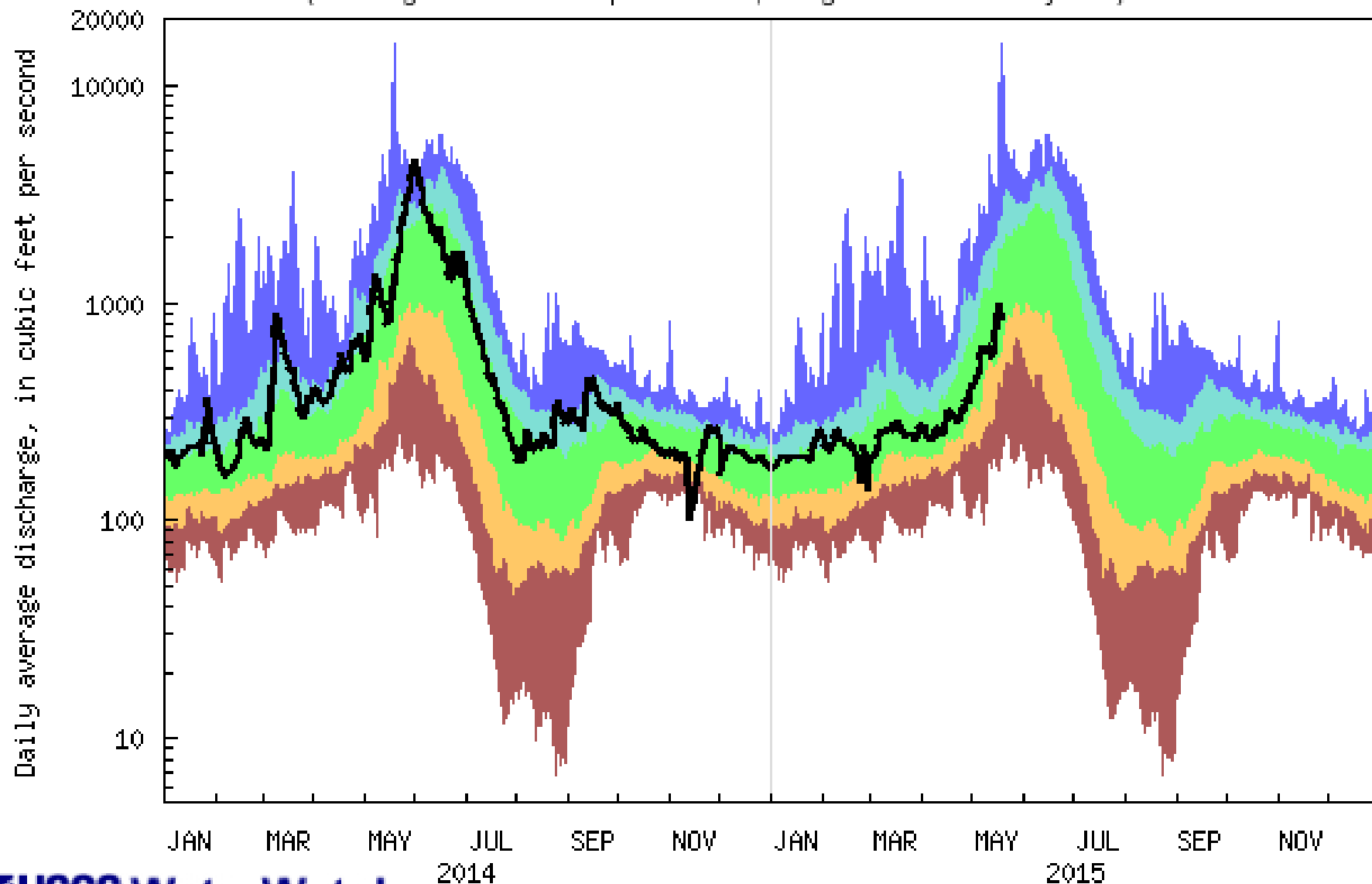


Explanation - Percentile classes					Flow
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06214500 Yellowstone River at Billings MT
(Drainage area: 11805 square miles, Length of Record: 85 year)



USGS 06306300 Tongue River at State Line nr Decker MT
(Drainage Area: 1453 square miles, Length of Record: 54 years)

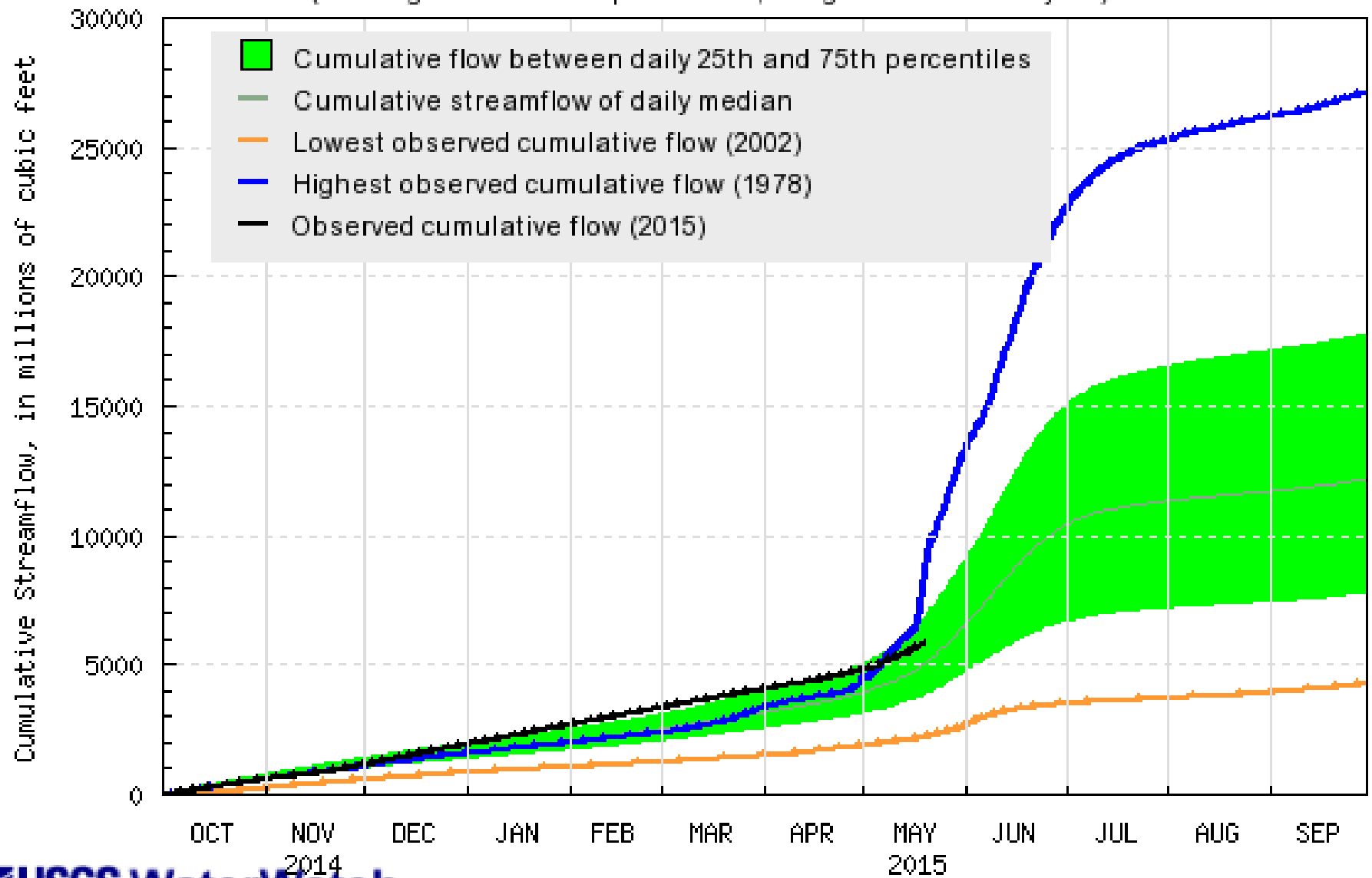


USGS WaterWatch

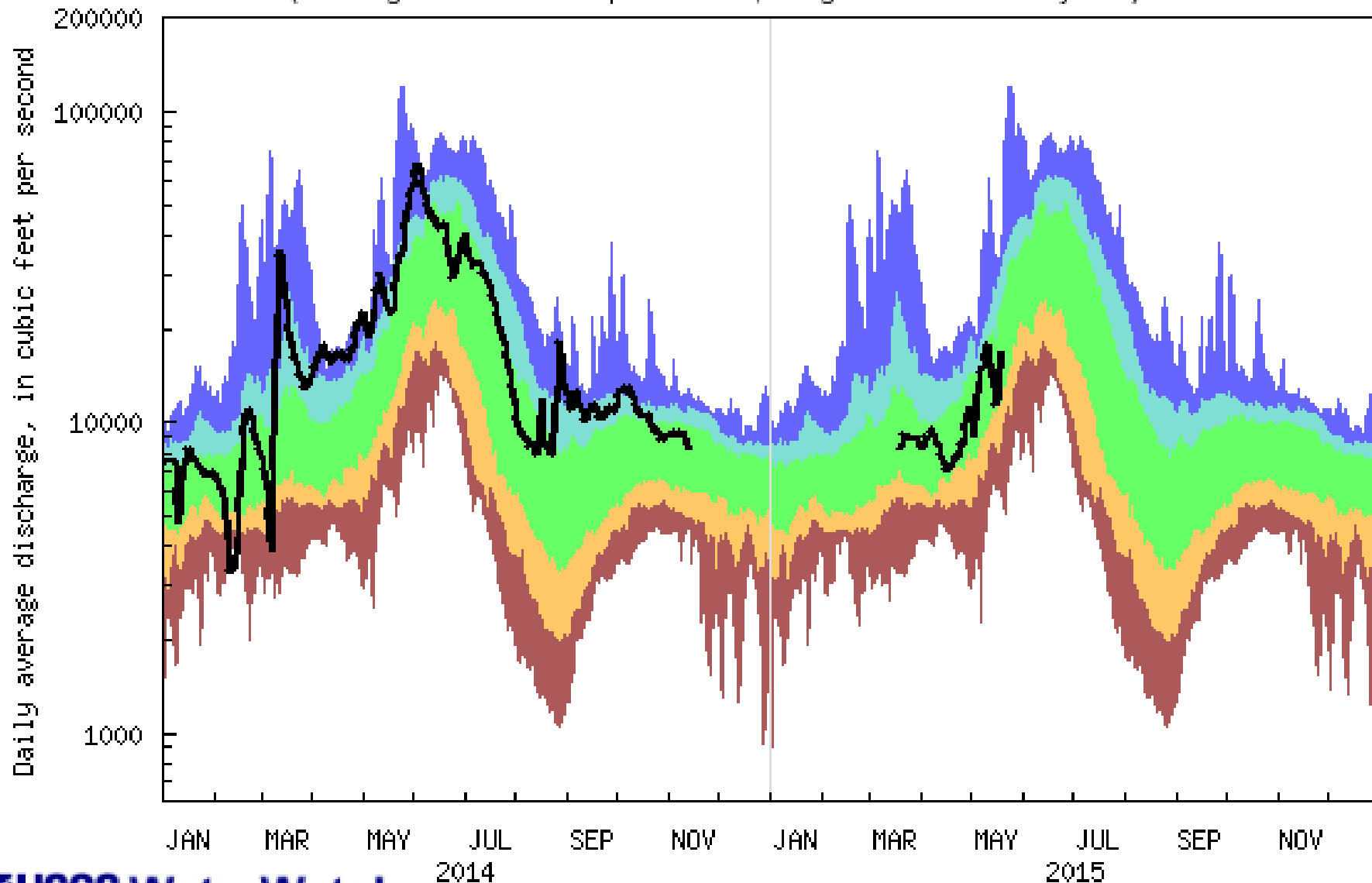
Last updated: 2015-05-20

Explanation - Percentile classes					Flow
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 06306300 Tongue River at State Line nr Decker MT
(Drainage area: 1453 square miles, Length of Record: 53 year)

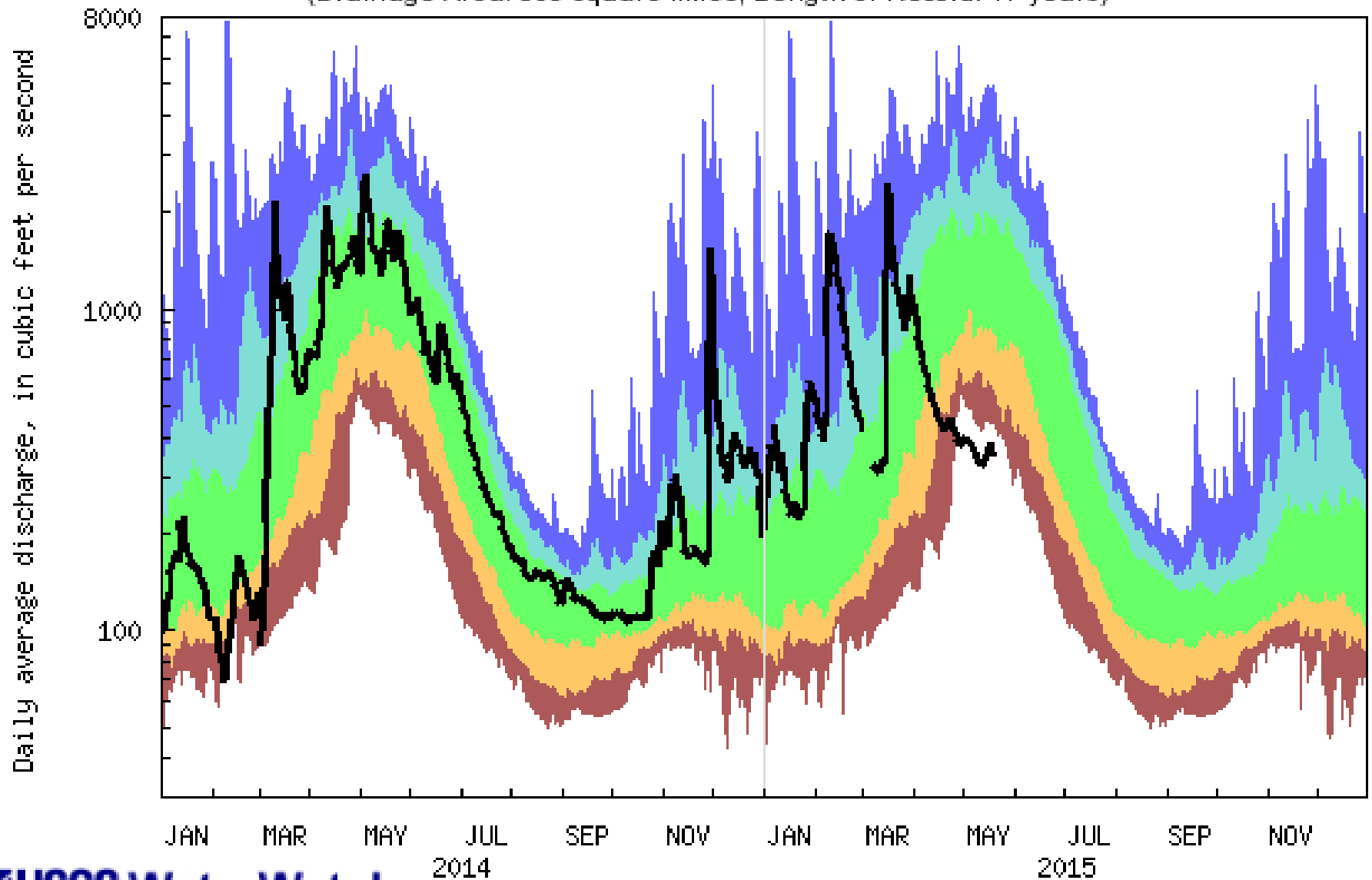


USGS 06329500 Yellowstone River near Sidney MT
(Drainage Area: 69083 square miles, Length of Record: 104 years)



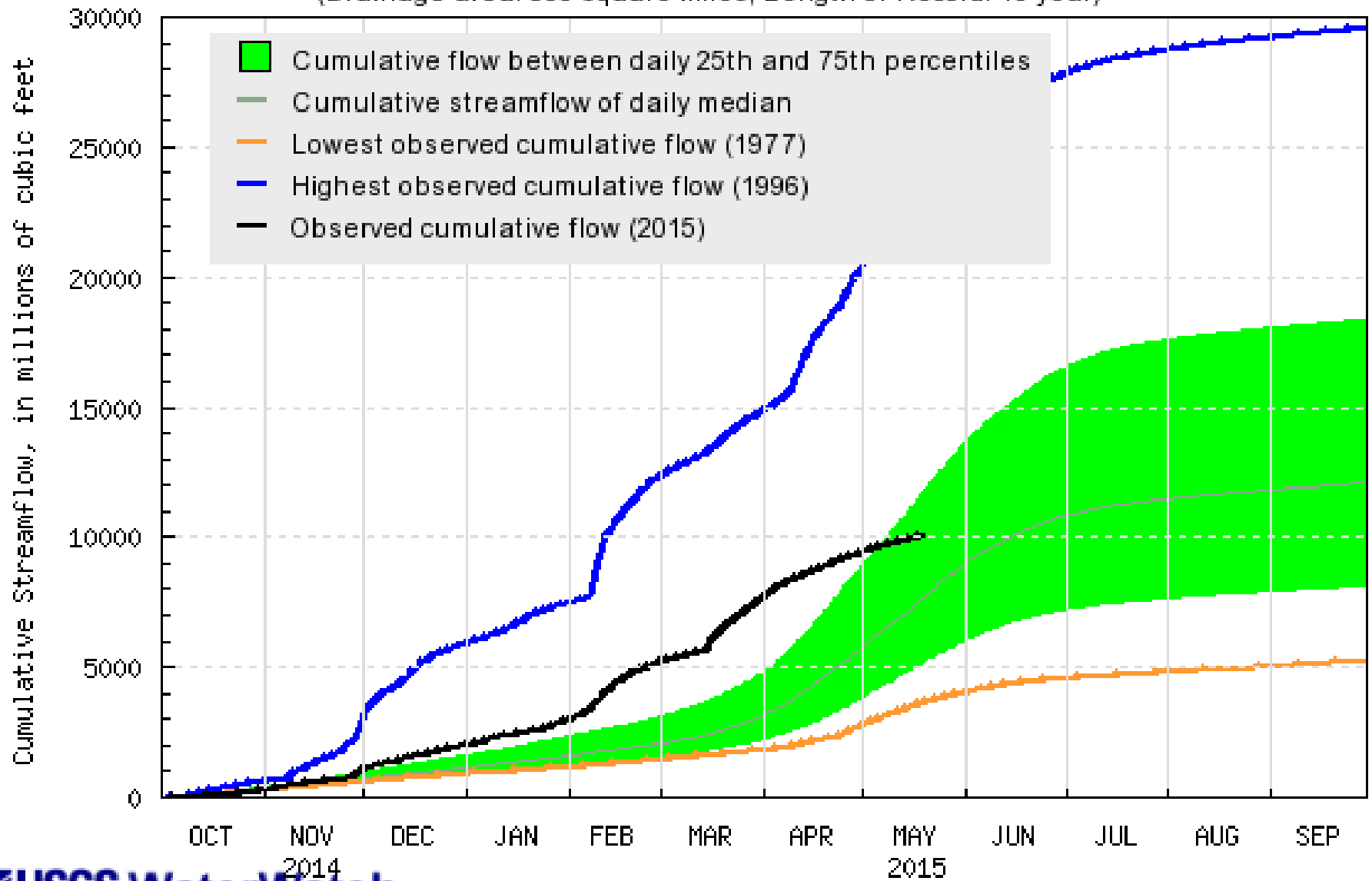
Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile - highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12302055 Fisher River near Libby MT
(Drainage Area: 838 square miles, Length of Record: 47 years)

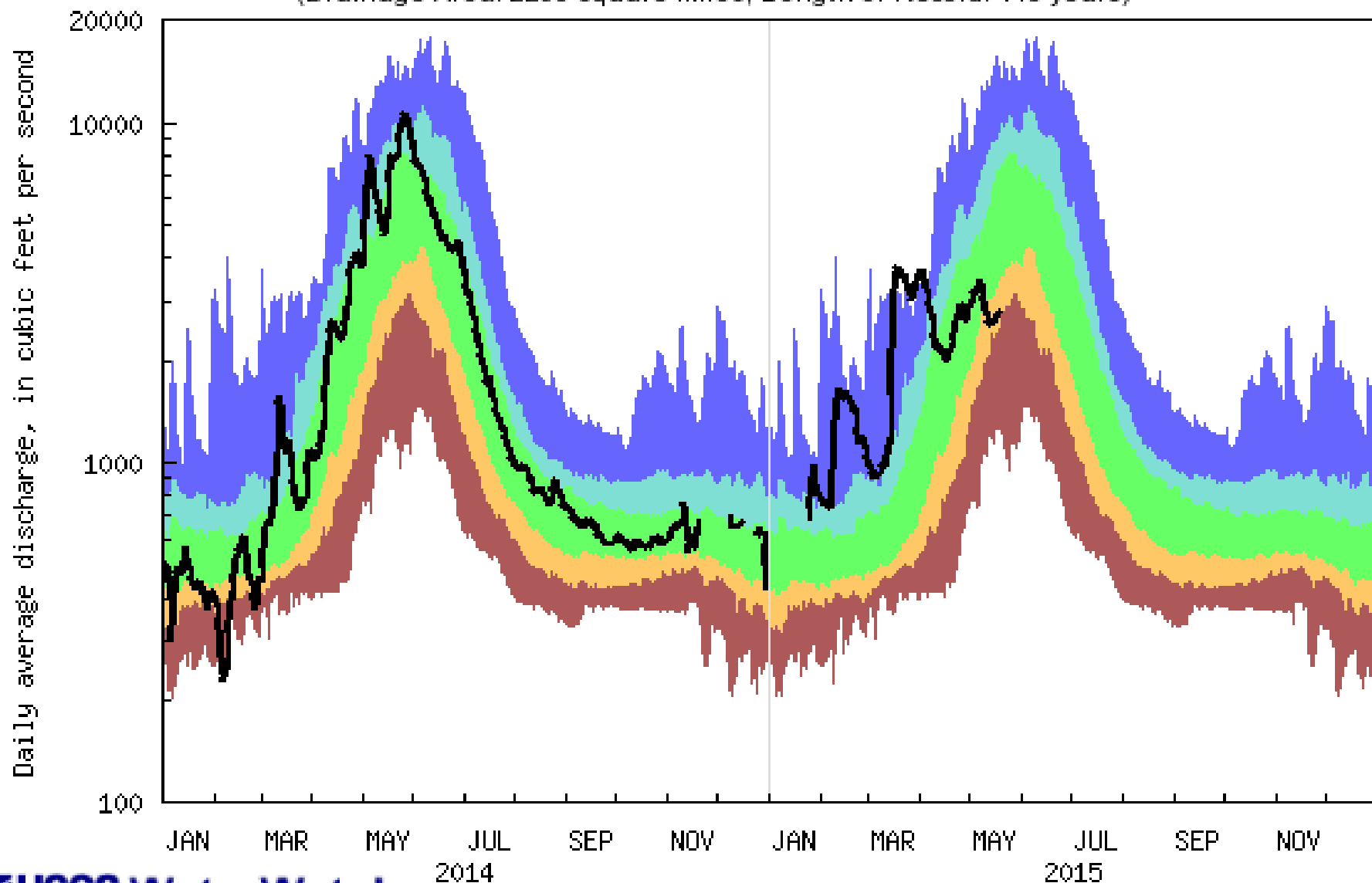


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12302055 Fisher River near Libby MT
(Drainage area: 838 square miles, Length of Record: 46 year)

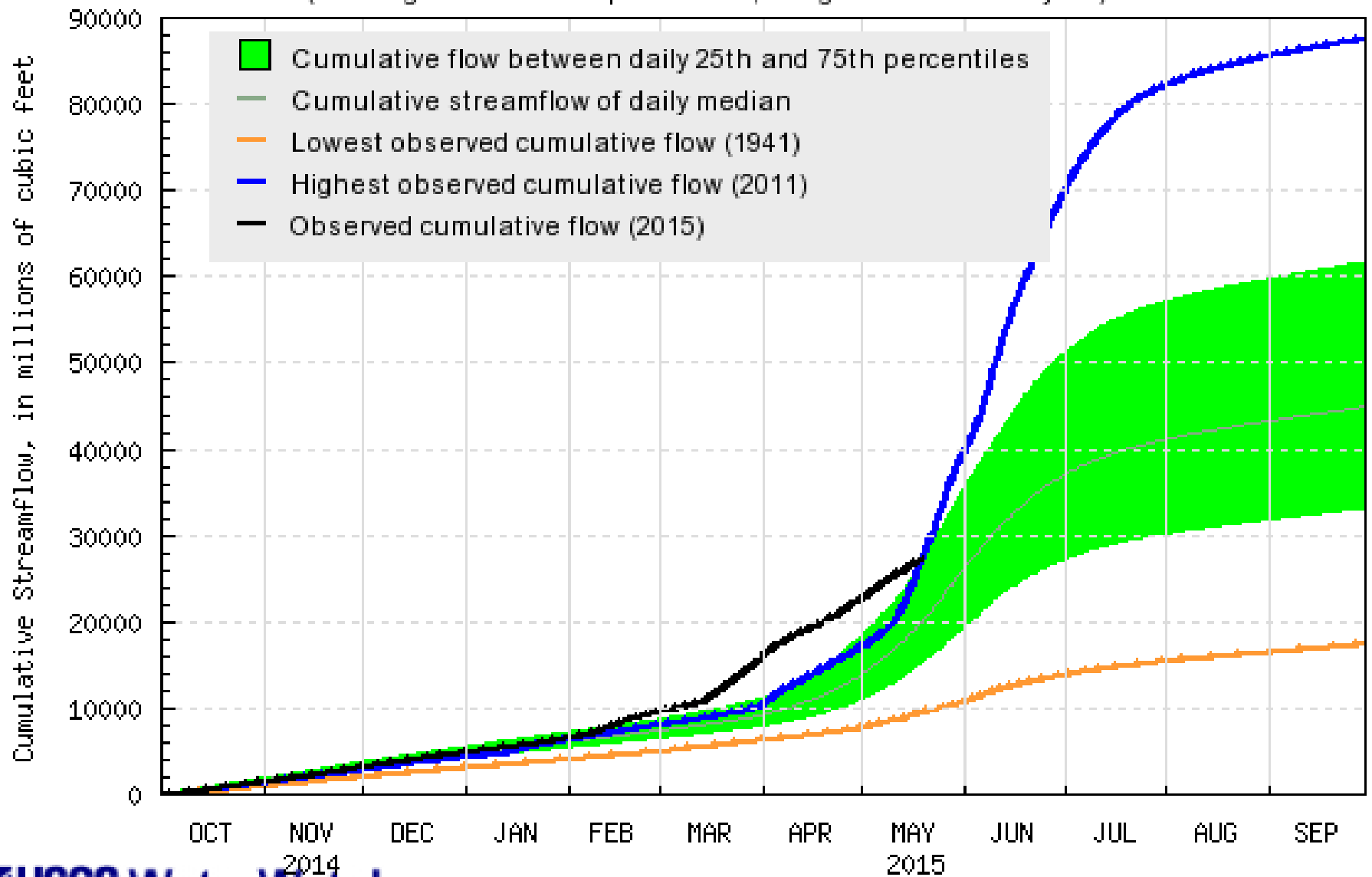


USGS 12340000 Blackfoot River near Bonner MT
(Drainage Area: 2290 square miles, Length of Record: 116 years)

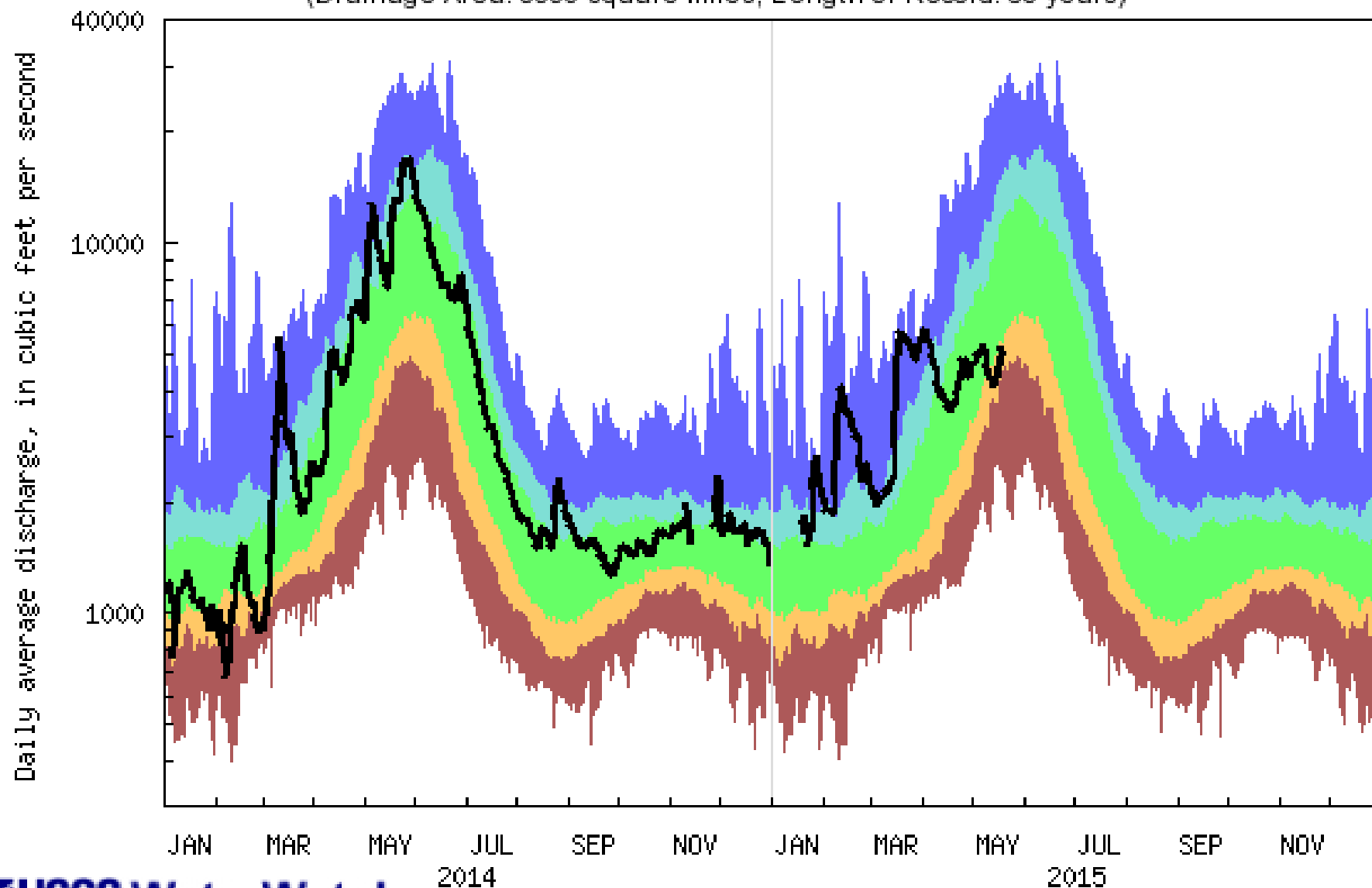


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12340000 Blackfoot River near Bonner MT
(Drainage area: 2290 square miles, Length of Record: 78 year)

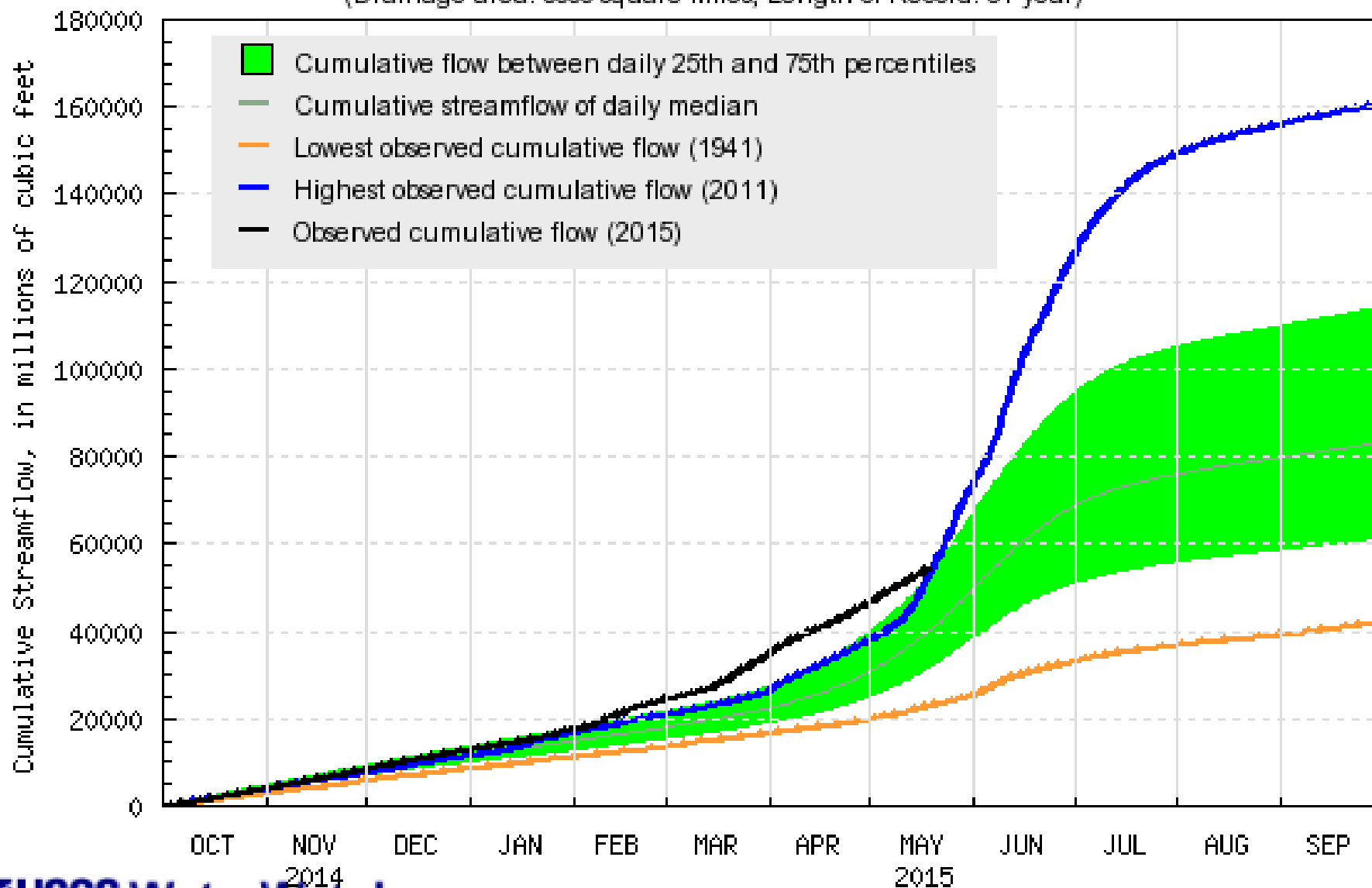


USGS 12340500 Clark Fork above Missoula MT
(Drainage Area: 5999 square miles, Length of Record: 85 years)

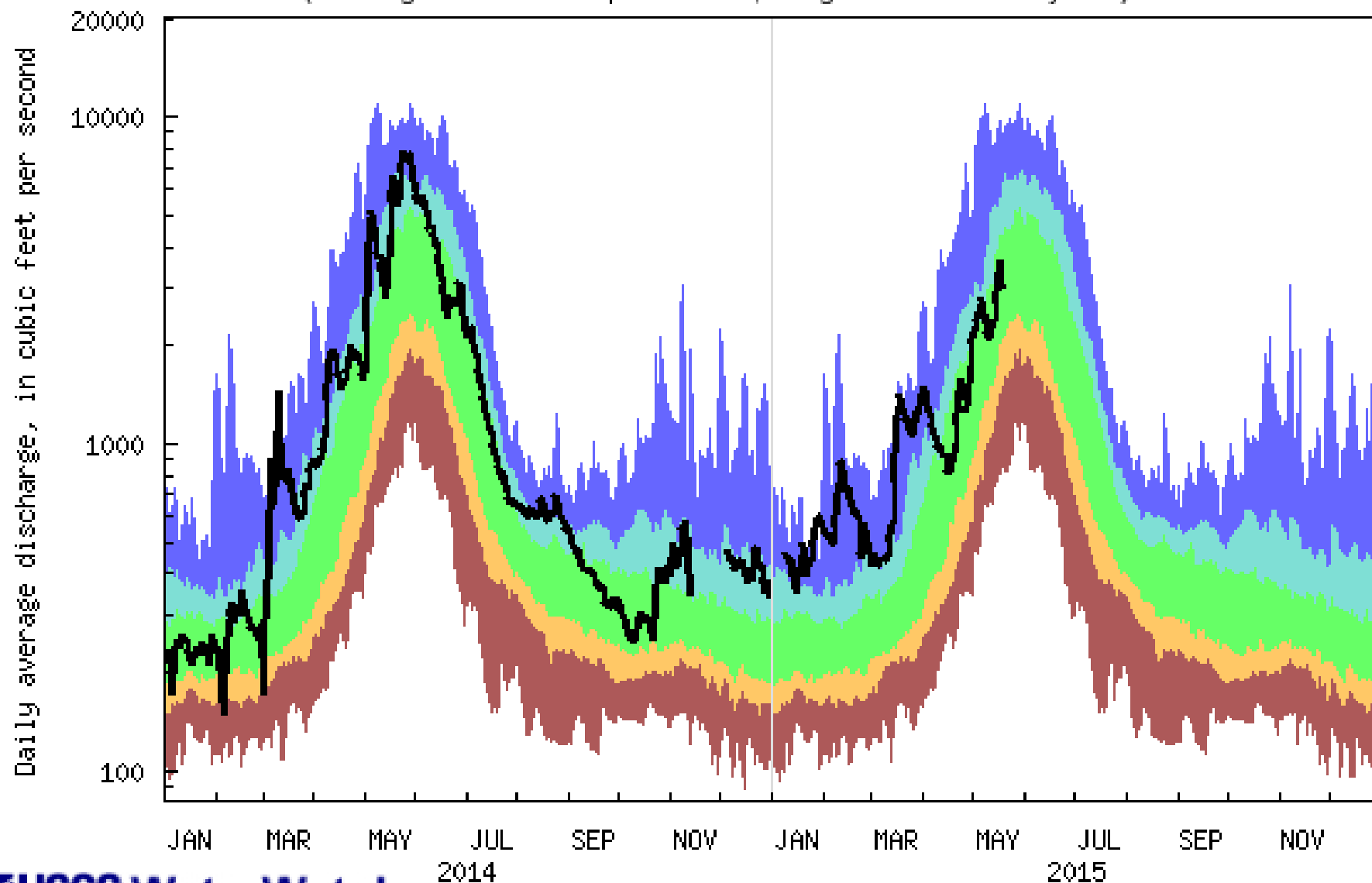


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile -highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12340500 Clark Fork above Missoula MT
(Drainage area: 5999 square miles, Length of Record: 84 year)

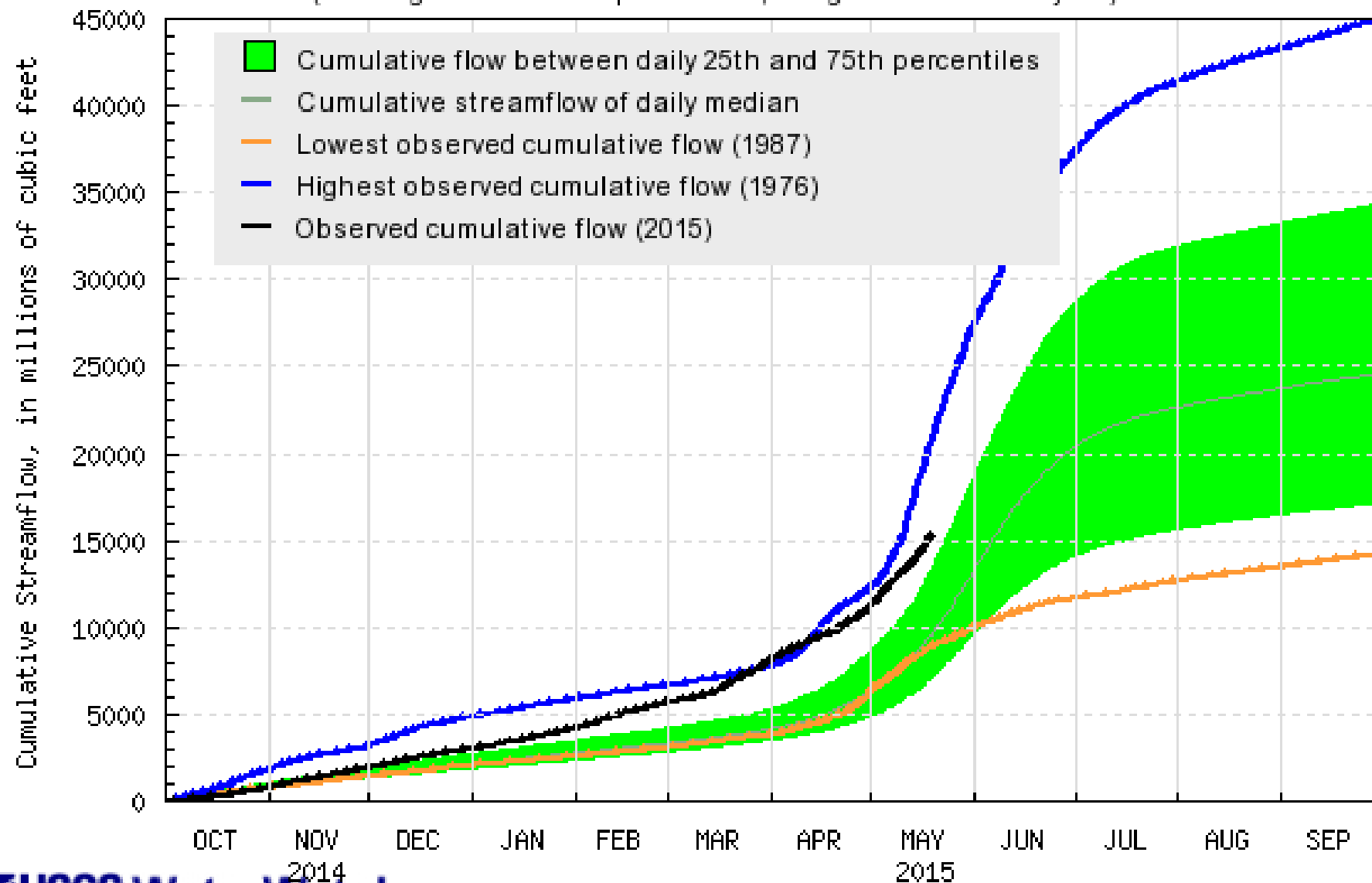


USGS 12344000 Bitterroot River near Darby MT
(Drainage Area: 1049 square miles, Length of Record: 77 years)

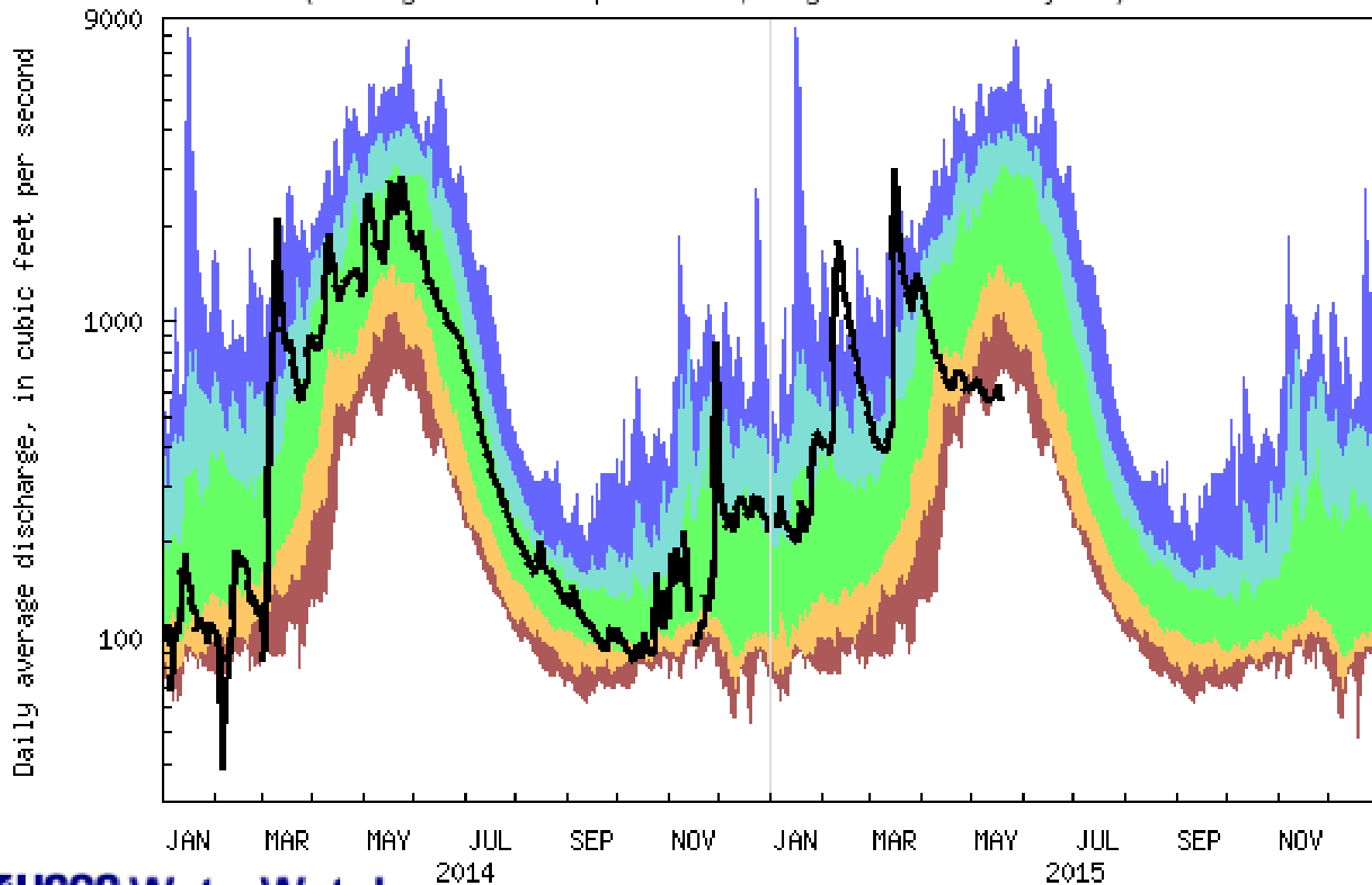


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12344000 Bitterroot River near Darby MT
(Drainage area: 1049 square miles, Length of Record: 76 year)

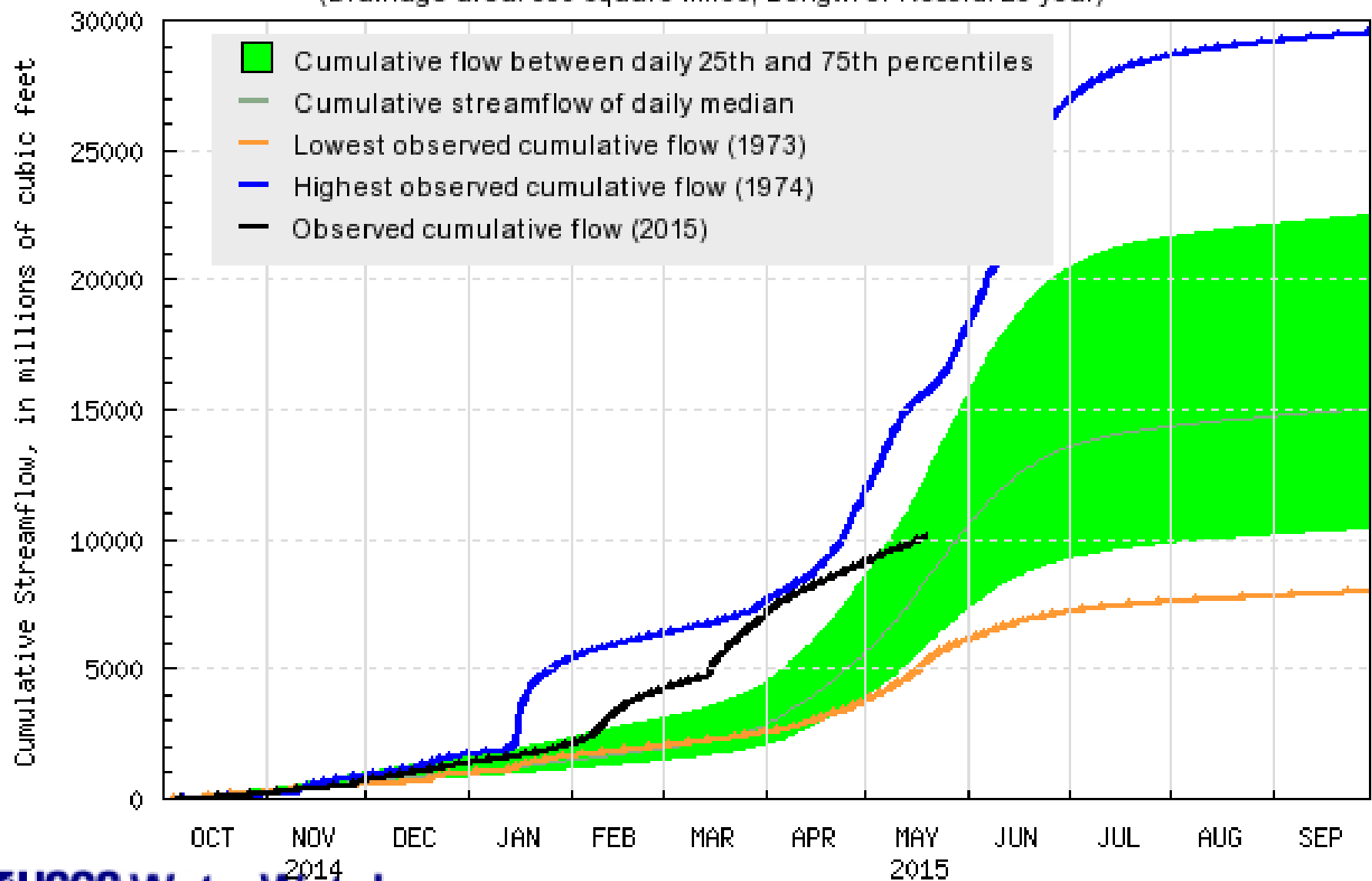


USGS 12354000 St. Regis River near St. Regis, MT
(Drainage Area: 303 square miles, Length of Record: 104 years)

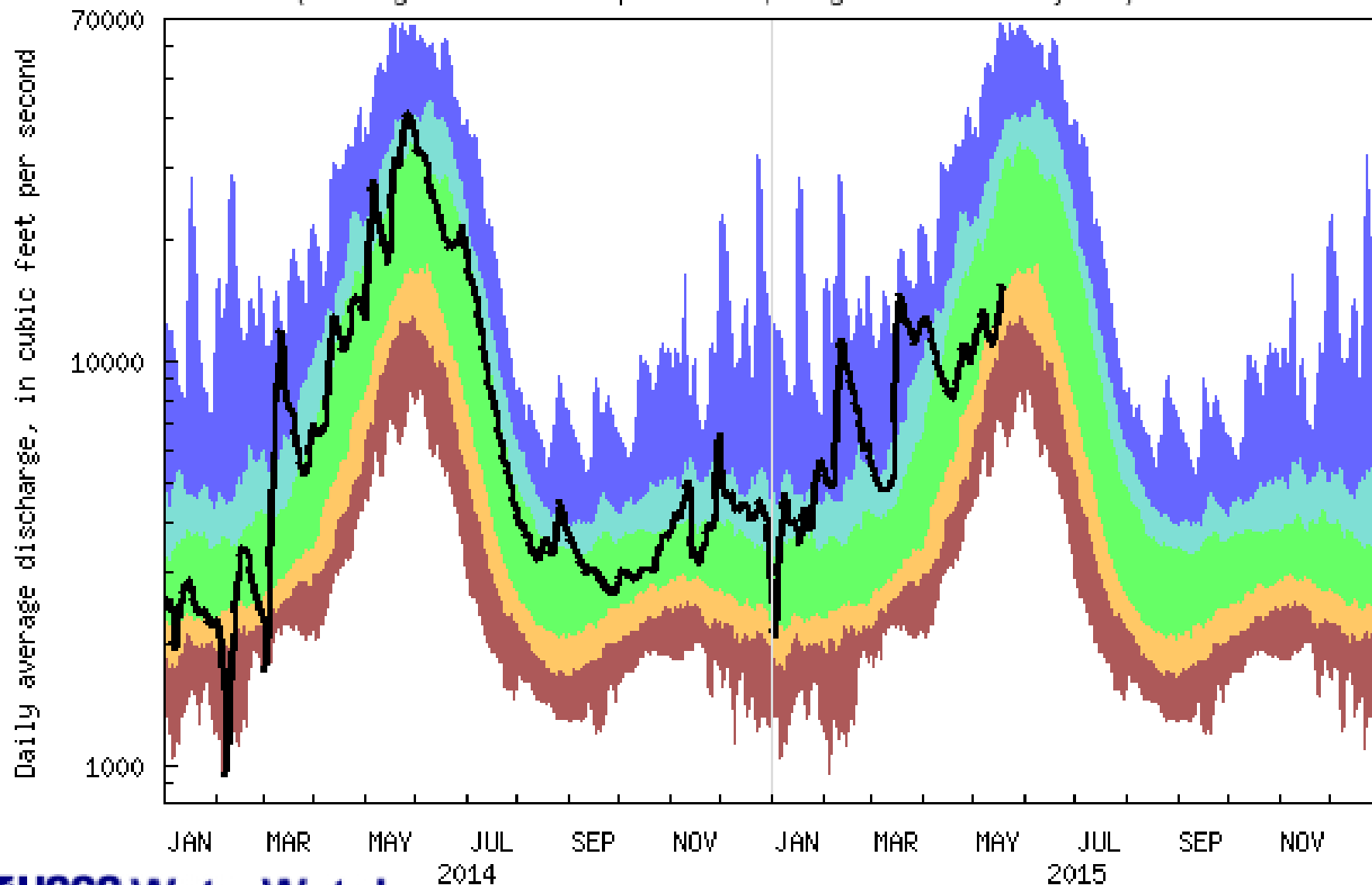


Explanation - Percentile classes					Flow
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12354000 St. Regis River near St. Regis, MT
(Drainage area: 303 square miles, Length of Record: 28 year)



USGS 12354500 Clark Fork at St. Regis MT
(Drainage Area: 10709 square miles, Length of Record: 85 years)

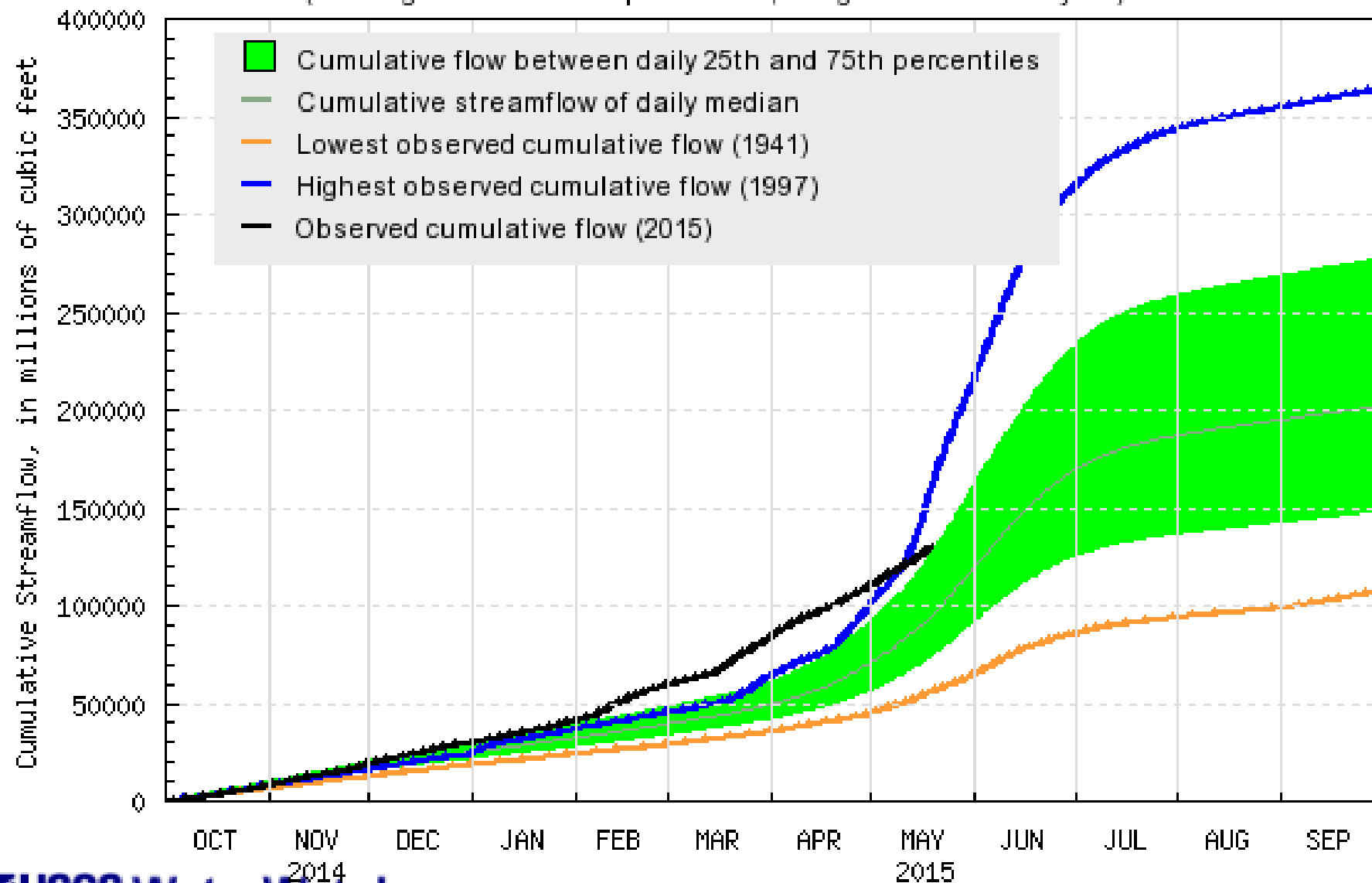


USGS WaterWatch

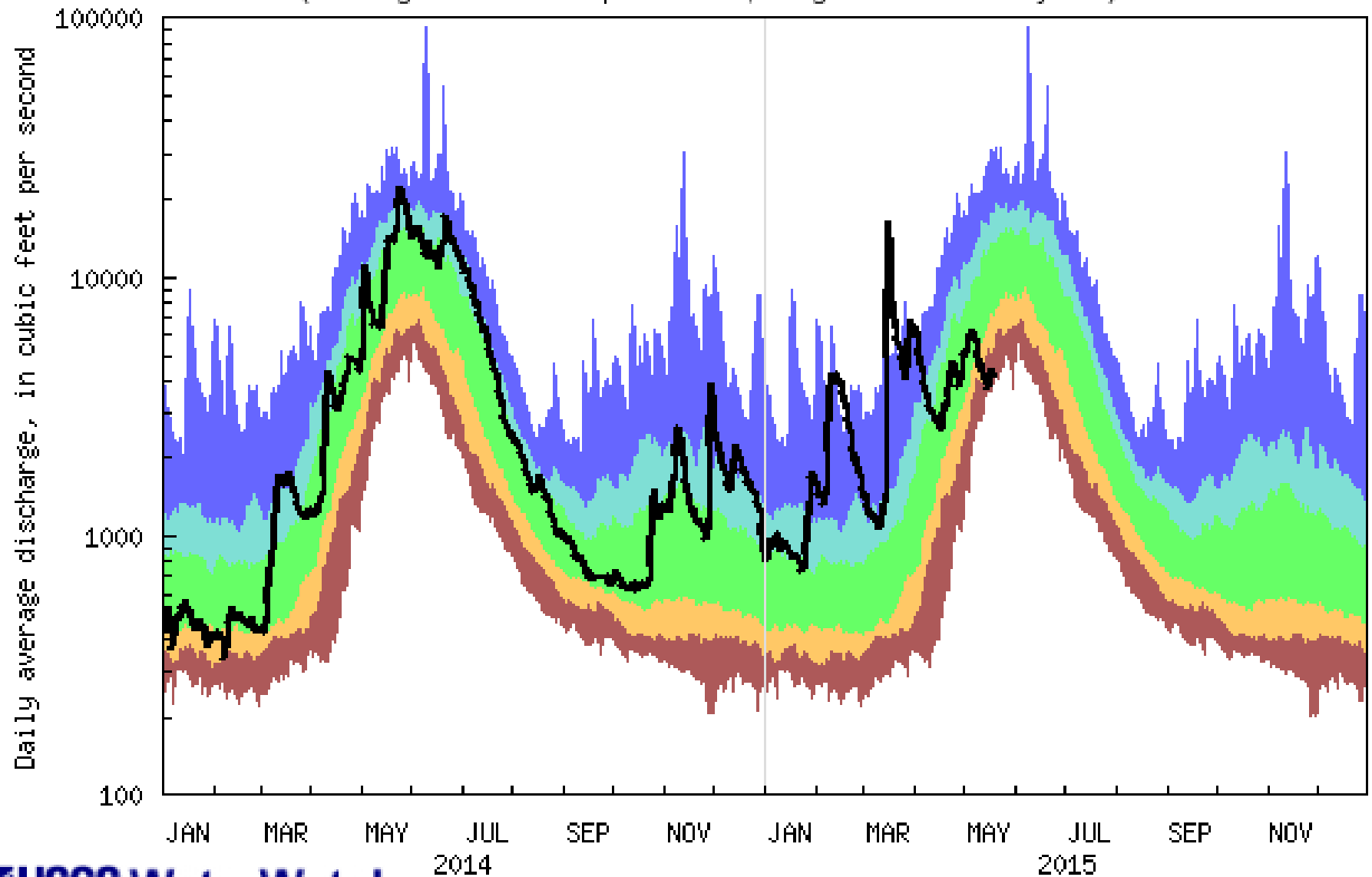
Last updated: 2015-05-20

Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12354500 Clark Fork at St. Regis MT
(Drainage area: 10709 square miles, Length of Record: 84 year)

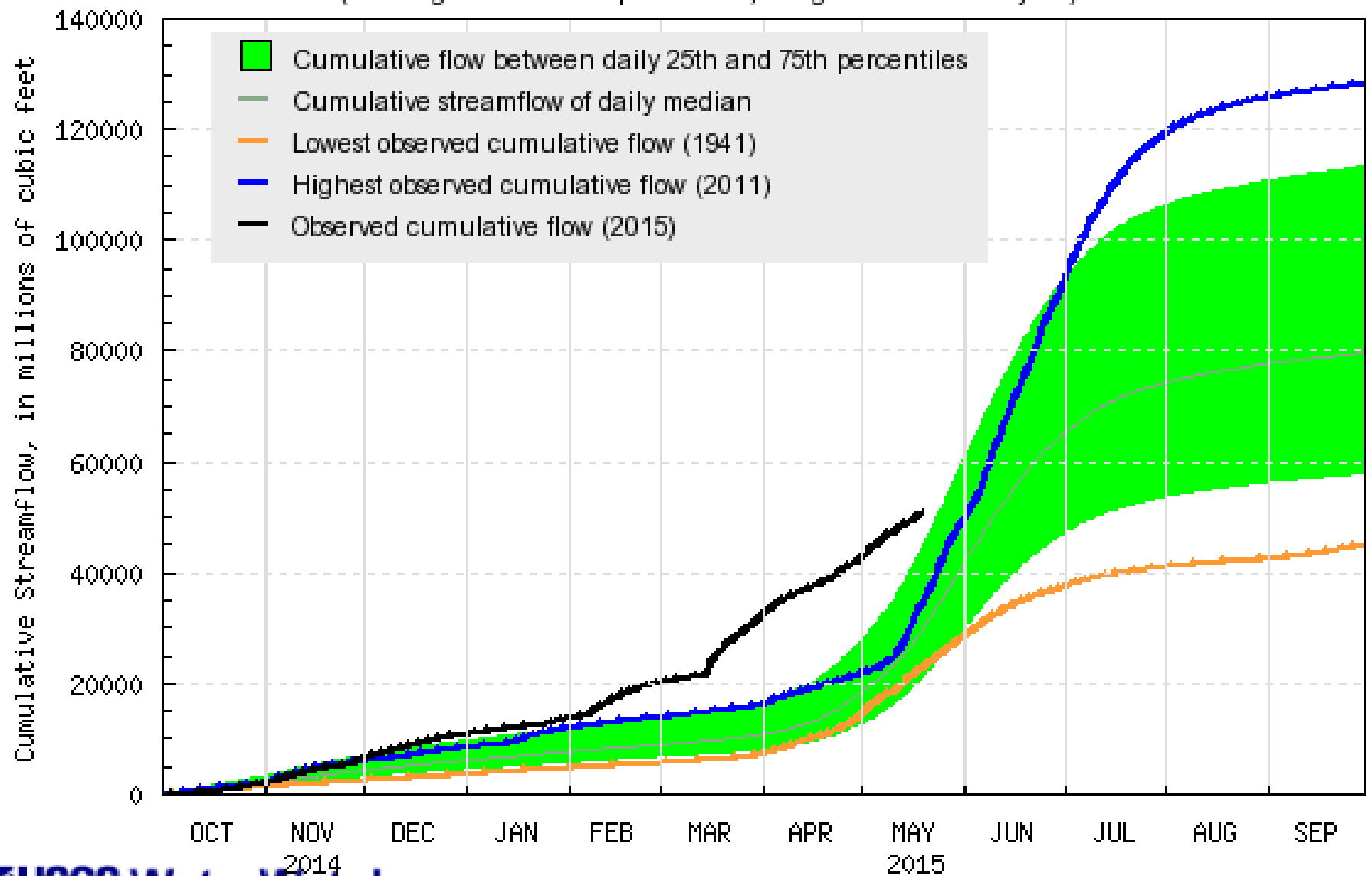


USGS 12358500 M F Flathead River near West Glacier MT
(Drainage Area: 1128 square miles, Length of Record: 75 years)

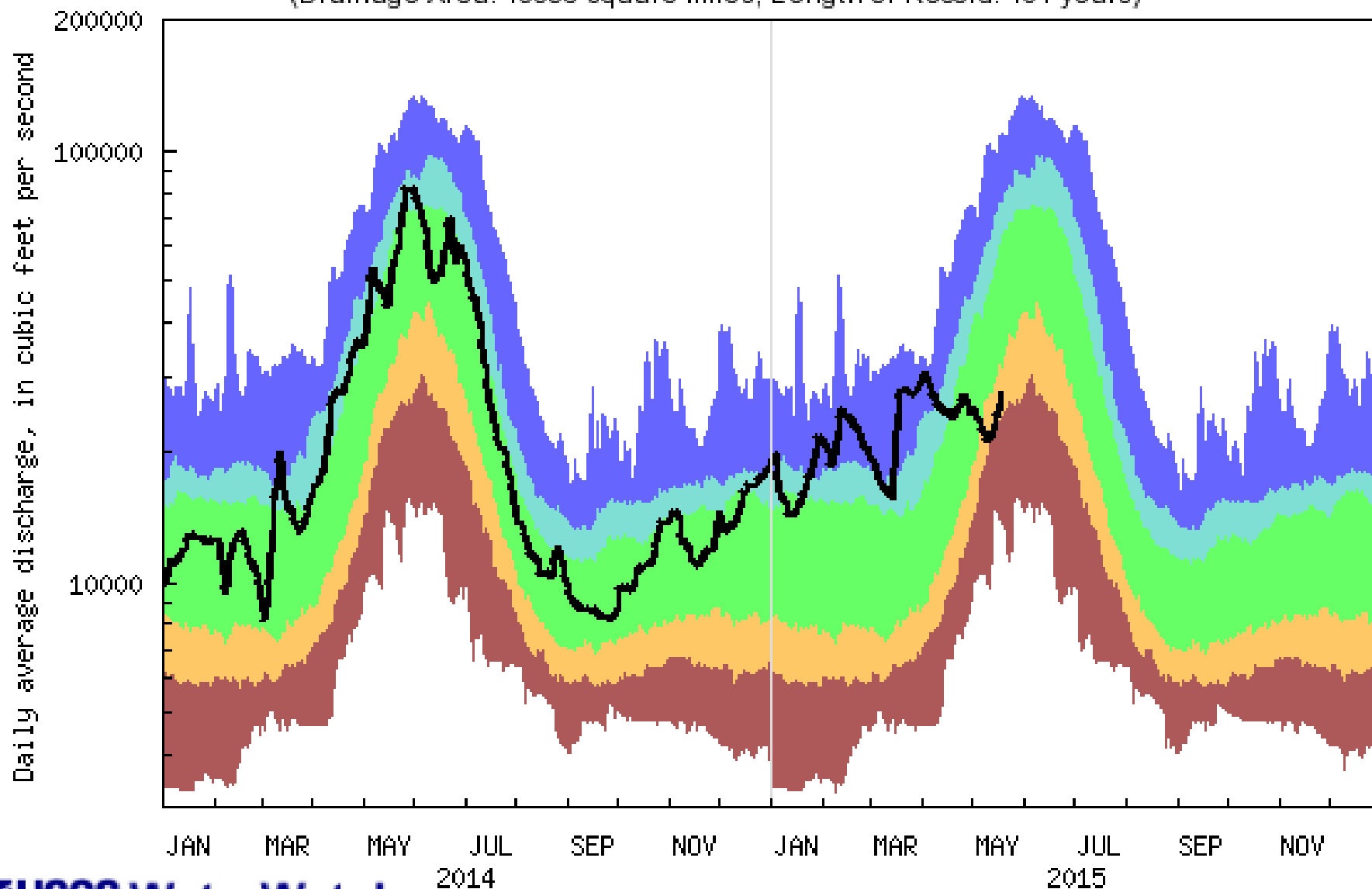


Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12358500 M F Flathead River near West Glacier MT
(Drainage area: 1128 square miles, Length of Record: 74 year)

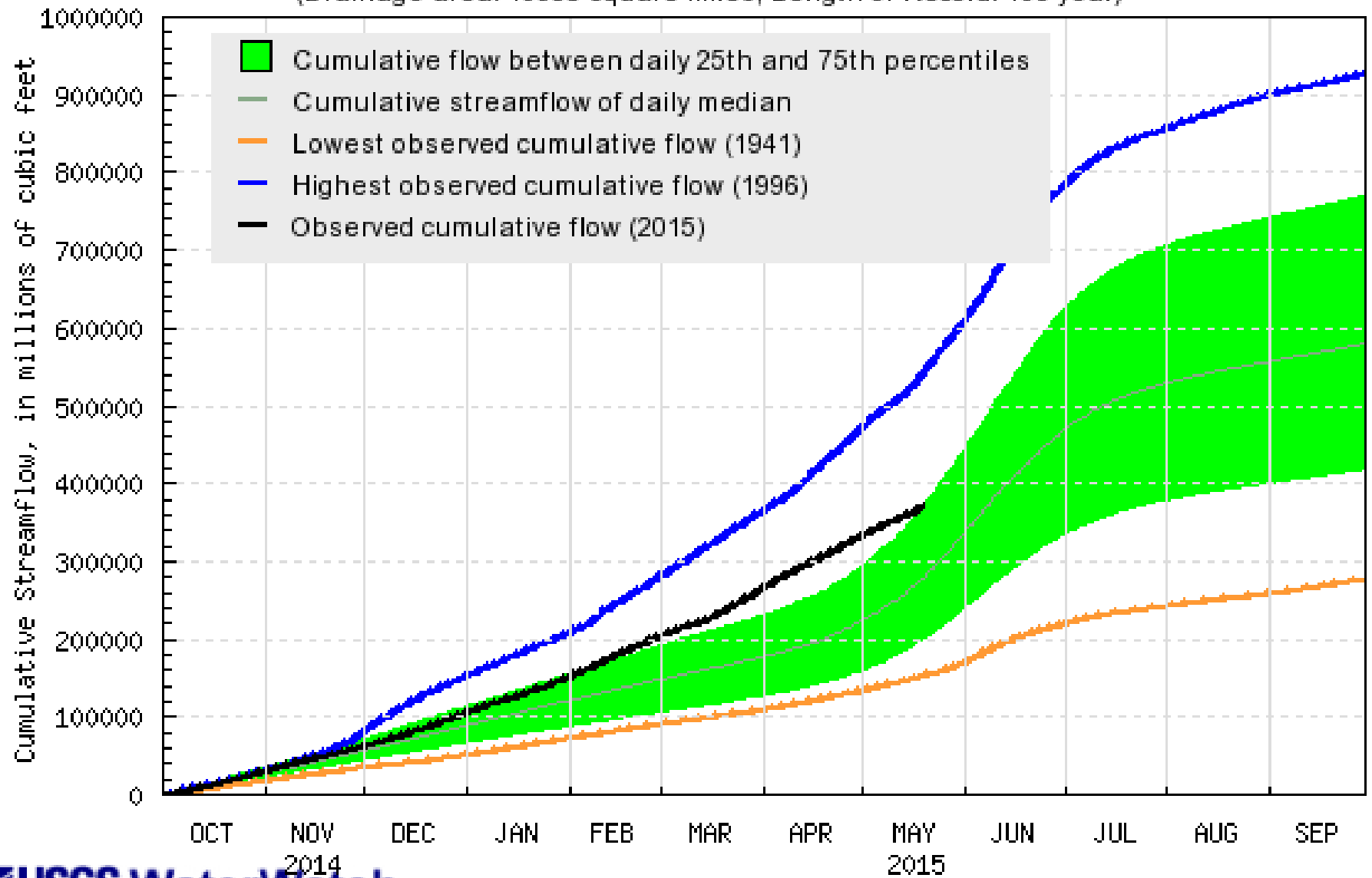


USGS 12389000 Clark Fork near Plains MT
(Drainage Area: 19958 square miles, Length of Record: 104 years)



Explanation - Percentile classes					
lowest-10th percentile	10-24	25-75	76-90	90th percentile-highest	Flow
Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal	

USGS 12389000 Clark Fork near Plains MT
(Drainage area: 19958 square miles, Length of Record: 103 year)





USGS Home Page: <http://usgs.gov>

NwisWeb: <http://water.usgs.gov/mt/nwis>

Access to streamflow (realtime and historical), water quality,
and ground water information.

Montana District Home Page: <http://mt.usgs.gov>

Montana Current Streamflow Conditions